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## Near East/South Asia Report

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21 APRIL 1987

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## EFFECT OF OIL PRICE DECLINE ON EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Algiers ALGERIE ACTUALITE in French 12 Mar 87 pp 10, 11

[Article by Abdelkader Hammouche: "Cuts in Personnel: The Weakest Link"]

[Text] While being far from dramatic, unemployment in Algeria is nonetheless worrisome. The combined effects of a decline in the price of a barrel and the world's highest demographic rate, 3.2 percent, will bring to pass a somewhat gloomy job market. This year, Algeria will create 116,000 jobs in sectors affecting the services, industry and civil service; and agricultural jobs could total 30,000. The private sector, which was also to create jobs, is beginning to curtail its enthusiasm due to a crucial lack of raw materials. To be sure, shutdowns did occur here and there. However, the recent governmental measures, which made the Chamber of Commerce the sole interlocutor of the private sector, will perhaps renew the hope of a burgeoning sector. There were also talks of "paring down the number of employees." Presidential directive no 47, calling for more austerity on the managers' part, was interpreted by some as a means to make deep cuts in personnel. Now, it involved managing the working world competently following the reorganization of the enterprises.

To be sure, if the creation of new jobs is somewhat at a standstill, it is due to our having distanced ourselves from the euphoria of the 70s when massive recruiting was going strong, employees were plentiful and enterprises ran without organizational charts. Companies were chosen for the range of benefits which they offered up to the ultimate "signi or riah" advantages! Or, to put it more prosaically, "ragda or t'mangi." It is true, this situation is a thing of the past. Today, the early retirement of burned out workers is being considered in order to open jobs for the young people. In addition, opportunities are no longer what they were. Sign of the times: Unemployment among academics is beginning to be felt. In truth, a new employment policy must be devised on the basis of this new crisis situation, demographic explosion and of the young people who are demanding a fuller and better life and clamoring to be let in. But, undoubtedly, there again, this new policy, which is to be defined anew, does not necessarily need to follow the traditional job-creation circuits. There are other possibilities: Agriculture, menial jobs and cottage industries can compensate for somewhat saturated networks. That is the conclusion reached by the officials who discuss the employment situation for this article.

There are taboos that passing time cannot remove. It is true for the phenomenon which economists call "paring down the number of employees" and which is simply called "collective firing" by the public. Some officials have a rather surprising attitude in the face of the great problems being experienced by our society. Whether it involves inflation, prostitution or cuts in the number of employees, their procedure is always the same: In order to solve these burning issues, categorically deny that they exist or, at least, refuse to answer the journalists' queries by arguing that "The moment is badly chosen" or that "The readers run the risk of wrongly interpreting the disclosed data," etc.

That was our concern when we began our survey on the trends toward the scattered pare down of the working force. Three main questions guided our survey: When did this trend for a reduced work force begin? Why did the heads of enterprises have recourse to this ultimate measure? How can this trend be stopped?

A trade unionist gave this explanation: "Everything began following the collapse of oil prices. Presidential memo no 47 was sent in April 1986 to all the ministries and enterprises. It called for a more scrupulous management and greater efforts in order to confront the repercussions of the oil crisis. Many officials misinterpreted this memo. Instead of showing imagination, initiative and courage to "rescue" their enterprises, some administrators preferred to have recourse to an easy solution, that is, reduce the work force, even though all prevailing texts, the SGT in particular, called for this measure to be used only after all the intermediary means (retraining, early retirement, etc) had been exhausted. It then became fashionable to reduce the work force in some places, shut down entire plants in others, not being afraid to affect unfavorably the means of production which often cost billions in hard currency.

According to Hamoutene, director of employment at the Ministry of Labor and Professional Training, the 55,000 layoffs were due to the worldwide economic crisis which seriously shook our country, as it did most of the developing countries. He explains: "The negative effects of the crisis lead to an investment slowdown. Some plants had to close for lack of raw materials. These are new problems which the Algerian enterprises had to face. "According to the above-mentioned official, there would be today some 700,000 people affected by unemployment and under-employment, or 15 percent of the active population. To be sure, it is a satisfactory rate when the situation prevailing some 10 years ago is taken into account, nonetheless, it remains critical.

Still, which are the sectors affected Ait Abdelmalek, UGTA [General Union of Algerian Workers] national secretary in charge of social affairs notes that "Layoffs are most frequent among the local communities and, in particular, in the building industry." Eighty percent of the cuts come from that sector. The departments that are most in the public eye are Tlemcen, Medea, Mostaganem, Oum el Bouagh, El Tarf, Bechar and Adrar, where the situation is truly worrisome inasmuch as the reimbursement of bank overdrafts lead administrators to lay off some employees.

Thus in Bechar, for example, a building company wants to lay off 1,700 of its 3,200 employees! Ait Abdelmalek confesses that there is room for concern,



the more so as some administrators do not even bother to consult the elect. Instead of looking for the true causes of the problems being experienced by their enterprise, they prefer to choose the most convenient and least complex solution, namely, paring down the work force.

"This absence of discussions between the administrators and the UGTA is that much more incomprehensible, deplores Ait Abdelmalek, that discussions among the party, the UGTA and the various ministries have never stopped."

Could what happened have been prevented? This is a very complex question, to be sure. "Following the 60 percent decline in our foreign currency revenues, comments the above mentioned high official at the ministry of labor, we had to make the following choice: We either had to decide to restructure our foreign debt and then be forced to appeal to the IMF, with all that it entails in anti-democratic measures (wage freezes, high prices for strategic products, etc), or do what Brazil did recently, that is to say, refuse to pay our debt, but in that case, we were to understand that no foreign organization would want to sell us the products that we needed since, in their eyes, we would be insolvent. It would mean facing a real economic blockade against our country. Our final choice was to organize our economy by making our enterprises more profitable and import no more than we exported. In the later case, the decline in imports, particularly for raw materials, inevitably leads to problems for the enterprises, hence the cuts in the work force. "Needless to say that, thus defined, the choice is self-evident: Where is the organization which would agree today to see its policies dictated from abroad?"

This having been said, what happened could have been avoided had anarchy, haste and an easy solution not won over reason, imagination and discussions.

It is precisely because things had taken a worrisome turn that the government adopted two series of measures on 24 December 1986. The first pertains to short term measures aimed at protecting the current level of employment by maintaining economic activity. It involves creating an employment support movement in order to help enterprises in trouble. Hamoutene specifies: "There is no question of serving as a substitute for the enterprise. It only involves helping enterprises in trouble to solve problems beyond their capabilities."

In order to do that, the Council of Ministers of 1 March 1987 "Reiterated the unfailing interest of the government in providing supplies to the means of production, whether it applies to its public or private sector, and, directly, with the same unflagging attention, to the population."

The second series of measures is aimed at the middle and long terms. An inter-ministerial committee has been set up "Which is entrusted with formulating an employment policy taking in consideration the economic situation of our country and the protection-of-employment principle, as well as the demographic parameter." Officials of the Ministry of Labor and Professional Training insist on recalling that the employment problem is linked to problems of housing, transportation etc. "Inasmuch as, deems Hamoutene, a good policy for housing, transportation, etc greatly facilitates employment mobility."

The UGTA national secretary of social affairs explains that this interministerial committee must accept a complete report toward the end of April. This report is to be presented during the Council of Ministers. It will propose solutions to the employment problem based on the country's capabilities. But meanwhile?

During the last meeting of that committee, continued our interlocutor, the enterprises were asked to stop laying off employees until the committee had issued its conclusions. It is a known fact, however, that some local communities continue to lay off employees even now."

Can firing employees be really avoided while making the enterprise profitable? The above-mentioned unionist says that "It is possible, it would only entail improving the quality of the products and succeeding in controlling overstocks, etc." As for Hamoutene, he recommends "Showing imagination and going beyond the simple statement of fact by settling the problems affecting the supplying of raw materials.

The possibility of sending layed off workers to work in agricultural jobs should also be considered, why not?, for it sometimes happens that cuts in personnel are unavoidable.

For Ait Abdelmalek, "The rational use of existing possibilities and transfers among sectors can ease the situation."

As for the middle and long terms, all opinions concur: It is imperative that new insight be brought to the employment problem and the elements of a true employment policy, which creates jobs, defined.

Is there reason to be optimistic about the future? Ait Abdelmalek says emphatically: "Yes, for the frank dialogue and constant discussions among the UGTA, the government and the party can only overcome the crucial problems facing the Algerian nation."

To be sure, the decisions taken by the government last 1 March show the public powers' will to solve the complex problem of cuts in personnel. The ball is in the enterprises' court, whether they are public or private.

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'ABD AL-MAJID ON U.S. CREDIBILITY IN MIDEAST

NC251944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1904 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] New York, 25 Mar (MENA)--Dr 'Isma' 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that recent changes in the U.S. Administration's attitude have begun to restore the credibility which the United States lost because of the Iran scandal.

In an exclusive interview with THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR published today, the Egyptian foreign minister said he was optimistic that President Ronald Reagan will, during his remaining period in office, convince Israel and its Arab neighbors to sit down at the negotiating table to decide on the convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East. He added that State Department envoy Wat Cluverius had discussed the options for the conference during his recent visit to Cairo.

'Abd al-Majid noted that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres had also shown flexibility during his recent visit to Cairo.

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CSO: 4500/77

MUBARAK'S COMMENTS ON LIBYAN AIRCRAFT CITED

NC011050 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Except] The Al-Daqahliyah governorate received President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today. Arriving in the city of Al-Mansurah at 0380, he was met by Al-Daqahliyah Governor Sa'd al-Shirbini and by a great number of the governorate's political and executive leaders. The president then went to the Mubarak station for agricultural machinery in Al-Sinbillawayn, where he inspected various parts of the station and was briefed by plant engineers on its tasks and the services it renders.

At the end of his tour at the station, President Mubarak spoke to journalists, saying: Egypt has managed to achieve a huge surplus of agricultural products, and has been able to meet its citizens' food needs despite its high population growth rates. He noted that surplus agricultural commodities recently produced have been exported.

Asked about the arrival of the Libyan pilots in Egypt, the president declared that the return of the two Libyan aircraft to Libya is contingent upon the return of three Egyptians being held in Libya. Unless these Egyptians return or we are told what action has been taken with regard to them, the two aircraft will not return to Libya, he added.

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AL-JUMHURIYAH ON HUSAYN-MUBARAK TALKS, PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

JN241811 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 23 Mar 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Palestinians: First and Foremost"]

[Text] The visit by King Husayn of Jordan to Cairo is within the framework of the coordination efforts made by Egypt and Jordan to push forward the Middle East process and to strengthen bilateral relations.

President Husni Mubarak was anxious to refer to Egypt's refusal to sign an agreement of principles on the Palestinian question prior to Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. President Mubarak emphasized that any solution to the Palestinian question must be reached with the consent of the Palestinians themselves, for the cause is theirs, and that no state has the right to replace those to whom the rights belong and that neither Egypt nor any other party has the right to conclude an agreement on behalf of the true claimants to Palestinian rights.

Perhaps such a principle should be underlined now at a time when many quarters are seeking to assume the right to speak for the Palestinians and at a time when the Palestinian voice has faded to such an extent it has become necessary to remind everyone of the principal axiom that it is Palestinians who should speak for themselves and it is Palestinians who should decide their own destiny.

Thus it should be understood that all Arab efforts must be concentrated on the principal objective of giving the Palestinian people, represented by their legitimate representative, the PLO, the opportunity to have their say.

While we emphasize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination we cannot but lay some of the blame on the Palestinian leadership which we hope will unite itself so the Palestinian voice will be united and heard and so no party will be able to speak on the Palestinians' behalf.

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CSO: 4500/77

## MUBARAK UNDERLINES STABILITY AT AWQAF CEREMONY

NC261654 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning attended celebrations held by the Awqaf Ministry to mark the prophet Muhammad's trip to Jerusalem and ascension into heaven [al-isra' wa al-mi'raj]. During these celebrations, the president laid the cornerstone of a hospital being built for the Al-Awqaf 'ulemas and employees. He also heard a report on the project's progress.

Mubarak then met with people responsible for Islam's propagation, as well as Awqaf Ministry 'ulemas, who had come from the country's various regions. The grand imam of the Al-Azhar Mosque, the Consultative Council speaker, the prime minister, deputy prime ministers, various ministers, the Cairo governor, a number of former Awqaf ministers, a number of Christian leaders, and ambassadors from Islamic countries posted to Cairo also attended this meeting.

After the meeting, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif declared that President Mubarak had emphasized his concern to clarify the facts. The president said Egypt is currently passing through a stage characterized by political activity generated by the upcoming elections. However, this comes at a time when economic circumstances require every Egyptian, no matter what his religion, to realize that overcoming the present difficulties and instituting economic reforms are what constitute Egypt's future.

We are presently witnessing an improvement in our economic situation, Mubarak noted, and this is reflected by the visible increase in tourism to Egypt. He also states that oil prices are improving and that the current talks with the IMF are proceeding positively. All this indicates that the situation is now stable, he added, and Egypt's sons are eager to safeguard this stability. Mubarak asserted that all citizens are concerned about their country and are well aware of the seriousness of rumors. Egypt has always been stable, he affirmed, and its people hoist the same flag. National unity, he said, is the goal of all Egyptians. It is the people's interest that governs every decision in Egypt, Mubarak stressed.

The president then referred to the loans Egypt has obtained since the beginning of the current development plan totaling \$10 billion. Mubarak

stated that \$1.2 billion was used to import wheat and \$1.8 billion was used to obtain the raw materials and spare parts needed to establish a production infrastructure, expand the telephone system, and generate electricity. He pointed to the need to limit power consumption and emphasized that new sources of energy must be utilized.

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CSO: 4500/77

AL-AKHBAR STRESSES UNITY AGAINST SECTARIAN 'SEDITION'

JN212105 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 20 Mar 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Let's Nip Sedition in the Bud"]

[Text] Egypt was and will continue--God willing--to be a living example of national unity. For hundreds of years the sons of Egypt have lived together, uniting around their love for Egypt and their defense of it against any evil. Fraternity among the sons of Egyptian society was and will continue to be our only creed for the rest of our lives.

Hence, any attempt to foment sectarian sedition is an alien action which seeks to harm stability in Egypt as President Husni Mubarak said yesterday during his meeting with popular and executive leaders in Al-Minya. Those instigating this sectarian sedition are considered Egypt's enemies whom we should confront together and deter from their evil.

Standing up to those who are trying to drive a wedge between the sons of the one homeland is the responsibility of every Egyptian and all the sons of the homeland. It is not the responsibility of the security organs alone because the sparks of the fire with which some are trying to play will not distinguish between some people and others.

Therefore, we emphasize President Mubarak's appeal to every Egyptian to be firm, to use logic and conscience, and to reject advocates of sedition and propagators of rumors. Every Egyptian citizen should strongly denounce any attempt to foment sedition among the sons of the one people. But we also say we have complete confidence in the Egyptian citizen's ability to understand the sinister motives of those who are behind such base attempts. What remains is to use force in deterring them.

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CSO: 4500/77

## AL-SHA'B CALLS FOR UNITY AGAINST SECTARIANISM

PM251221 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Dr Muhammad al-'Awwa: "Sectarian Sedition: Who Is the Beneficiary, and How Can It Be Dealt With?"]

[Excerpts] Sectarian sedition is today the most important issue in the Egyptian arena. It is teeming with dozens of events and matters that concern people. Since the revelation of the Sawhaj and Asyut incidents writers in Egyptian papers have been covering the subject of sectarian sedition by various methods, but they all aim their accusations at the foreign sources which planned and created this previously nonexistent sedition.

Many writers have even specified those they accuse or suspect. The clearest and frankest material written on this subject was the article Mr Ahmad Bahjat wrote in his famous column published in the AL-AHRAM issue of Wednesday, 11 March 1987. In this article Mr Ahmad Bahjat writes, with a clarity and openness for which we must give him credit: Israel is accused of being the only beneficiary from the sowing of sectarian sedition in Egypt.

He indeed quotes from Israeli sources themselves, which say that this malign attempt constitutes a strategic Zionist aim for the 1990's. Its objective is to divide Egypt and then Sudan and Libya into small states that have no real influence or effective power and will then live at the mercy of the Zionist entity, which alone will, so they claim, possess military power and technological superiority. There is limitless evidence of the truth of this accusation. Israel fears that a military confrontation like that with Egypt--even though that ended in the biggest victory Zionism has ever achieved, that is, the peace treaty with Egypt which aborted the heroic epic of the Arab Egyptian victory of 1973--could take place once or many more times since the Arab nation's, indeed the Islamic nation's objective is to liberate the sacred land from Zionist rule, aggression, oppression, and racism. The only way to eliminate this fear of military confrontation is to drown Egypt in a swamp from which it cannot emerge or, if it should, from which it would only emerge completely shattered and exhausted and would think only of itself; Egypt's enemy is itself, so there is no time to think of Israel or other foreign enemies.



Numerous foreign forces are backing Israel's dreams and plots to cause and create sectarian sedition in Egypt. When it comes to destroying the Islamic Arab Egyptian force, these foreign forces tend to forget all their dogmatic and theoretical differences in order to agree on hitting Egypt in its most vulnerable spots: the economic crisis and social justice. In addition to this they work toward destroying the fruits of political and economic independence, increasing debt in order to tighten their deadly grip on a debtor unable to pay, and finally dividing the people through exploitation of their religious feelings.

Therefore we see that the true solution to this new ordeal should be a different one from the traditional, two-part solution divided between force, as employed by the police, and the emotional response, which is content to recall the achievements of national unity and the glories of Coptic-Muslim dealings during various times among the people of these two religions since Islam joined Christianity on Egypt's soil. We do not deny or forget these glories, indeed we would add to this that the church and the mosque which were both burned in Sawhaj on a Friday within 1 hour of each other were in fact built by a Muslim from Sawhaj and that the Abu Tih archbishopric, the biggest in Asyut, is built on land donated by a prominent citizen from Al-Nukhaylah called Al-Khalil Muhammad Hammam. They would not have made these contributions unless they believed that all Egyptians worship one god. Even if Muslim and Coptic ceremonies differ and some creeds vary, the axis around which the people of the two religions revolve is one: the worship of Almighty God and a belief in the message and the messenger.

Recalling all this is not enough to solve our new sectarian ordeal. A solution requires all national and religious forces to unite to confront the factors and causes of sedition and to prevent it from taking place again.

Abba Bakhum has not, as he is quoted as doing by the press, accepted the state's offer to repair Sawhaj church. The papers stated--and I hope they were wrong--that Bakhum has begun to set up concrete barricades around the church in order to protect it from any potential onslaughts. If anything, this proves that the wound which a sinful attack inflicted on the church pastor has not yet healed despite emotional treatment and the declaration of good intentions through their eminences the mufti and the Awqaf minister.

Therefore the unity of national and religious forces must now take a direct, immediate, and practical line; in the villages, cities, and districts there should be purely popular committees that do not include any official or government elements. Their task must be:

First: To firmly establish the spirit of human and religious brotherhood among all Egyptians, especially between the Copts and Muslims, out of love for and in protection of Egypt and also in order to prevent this savage sedition from turning Egypt into another Lebanon. In fact the situation is even more dangerous and has consequences a thousand times more far-reaching than those in Lebanon.

Second: To protect all places of worship and all religious holy places from any attacks aimed at harming their security or exposing them to danger.

If Egyptian life today happens to be preoccupied with electoral battles, that is, with promoting ideas and programs, meeting candidates, and helping people to study the electoral programs presented--this restless period is in fact the best time to begin forming such committees.

Undoubtedly this call or indeed appeal is directed first of all at the national forces which base their programs on Islam, in the forefront of which is the Muslim Brotherhood, which has allied itself with both the Labor and Liberal Parties in this electoral battle.

The call or indeed appeal is directed, secondly, at the national and local Coptic forces so that they may accept the initiatives of others to form serious and sincere popular committees wherever Muslims and Copts live, so that they all cooperate to protect everybody's right to live and practice his own religion in the way he believes best.

The call or indeed appeal is thirdly and finally directed at all official political parties and at all the candidates nominated for the People's Assembly.

May God protect Egypt from every harm and open the hearts of its Muslim and Coptic leadership for the response to this call in order to avoid worse sedition that will not harm the oppressors but those who are involved in it as well as those reluctant to stop them.

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CSO: 4500/77

INTELLECTUALS CRITICIZE REGIONAL REPRESSION

Khartoum AL-HADAF in Arabic 10 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Kamal Hasan Bakhit: "AL-HADAF Talks with Dr Nawwal Al-Sa'dawi and Dr Sharif Hattatah: Democracy Cannot Be Achieved through Religious Terrorism"]

[Text] In connection with the Arab Human Rights Organization meetings held in Khartoum, AL-HADAF had this meeting with Dr Nawwal al-Sa'dawi and Dr Sharif Hattatah on human rights in the Arab nation, the war of the camps, the Iranian regime's practices and other matters.

How do you view the status of human freedoms and rights in the Arab nation and the status of Arab women in this context?

Dr Nawwal replied, "In my opinion, there is no difference if we say human rights or the freedom of man. The word 'man' here means women and men, or the freedom of women. It is freedom of thought, freedom of opinion, freedom of belief, political, economic, social and cultural freedoms, moral and personal freedom -- these all represent the freedoms we are talking about. These freedoms are supposed to become guaranteed for all people in our country equally and fairly."

Dr Sharif added, "I agree with Nawwal in the statement she said, with the addition of a minor thing: it differs from one Arab country to another. That is, there are Arab countries where there is more freedom than in other Arab countries. There is no doubt that in the Sudan, after the recent upheaval, there is a greater amount of freedoms than existed before. Also, in Egypt, there may be greater freedoms than other Arab countries. However, I believe, in the Arab national context the state of political freedoms and human rights is in an extremely bad condition. This in my opinion arises from our being condemned to domestic and foreign conditions which prevented your reaching the freedoms we demand. That is, we are not free in the sense of real freedom and these nations are not free and are condemned to economic restrictions, are condemned to the international situation and are also condemned to ruling groups in very many cases which violate people's freedoms."

To what causes do you attribute the aversion of Arab intellectuals or their negative attitude vis-a-vis the cause of the defense of democratic freedoms

and human rights in the Arab nation in general? Don't you believe that there is a state of alienation between cultural action and the struggle for democracy toward the end of establishing a cultural heritage as a basis for this struggle?

Dr Nawwal replied,

"There is a rift, and most Arab intellectuals in fact are very negative. There are reasons for this in my view. The first reason is that most intellectuals are actually connected to the authorities. That is, three quarters of the Human Rights Organization and its members are founders but who among them are indeed truly, clearly hostile to the authorities and show opposition? When the opposition is sound, one begins to fight against a given regime, but when I am working with the regime and justifying its acts on its behalf that means there are intellectuals who are concerned with justifying the philosophy of violence and repression in the Arab countries, justifying them and their philosophy, encouraging them and so forth. In my opinion, there is a kind of slovenliness as far as Arab intellectuals are concerned. Of course the cause of this is fear of the authorities; that is, Arab intellectuals are employed by the authorities and it is the authorities who pay them their salaries, whether they are in the government or any other body, even the writers, television, radio, the media and so forth.

"If the president is hostile to them, or the government is hostile to them, they will be banned from their jobs. Therefore they are afraid to be hostile to the government. They wonder, how can I publish, as happened in the days of al-Sadat, for example, when I found that I was not able to publish, could not write, could not move and could not do anything, was dismissed from my job and imprisoned. This is a loss for me as a writer, in this manner. They did indeed perform the process of a total blackout and concealment of my literary and artistic effort over the period of 11 years in which it was in effect. Who among the intellectuals now is prepared to sacrifice his work, his life and his writings and subject himself to prison? How many? You will not find one who will make a sacrifice. Therefore there is a kind of anxiety over life and a livelihood, and over being imprisoned because of the existence of terror in the country, in the Arab countries in general. As Dr Sharif said, you in the Sudan have relative democracy and we in Egypt also have relative democracy, but in most Arab countries there is terror. No one can state his opinion. If he acts in opposition, no one will know what your fate is. Therefore, this is the result of fear, secondly the connection to the authorities and thirdly sometimes there is a lack of awareness, that is, the intellectuals among us are not full intellectuals. That is, culture is the output of society. That is, when there is culture that is condemned and limited and limited religious thinking overwhelms it, that causes a kind of superficiality and shallowness to exist among intellectuals. That is the reason for their real negativism. However, in spite of that, I can say that there are new generations of intellectuals, men, women and young people, who have different ideas, and they have courage, and in my opinion this is a future. I mean the young people."

Dr Sharif:

"I agree with Mrs Nawwal also. The price of standing against all regimes of tyranny on behalf of human rights for the sake of freedoms is high in



various areas and the intellectuals for long years have been paying this price. There are many people who have paid this price before us and there are people who have languished in prison for 13 years whose ideas and writings have died away. This happened in Egypt, and this led to a kind of negativism. This is also a reason why if there had been parties, bodies and organizations which to some extent had been active and strong we would have been able to support everyone who took a stand. There is no doubt that the intellectuals' position would have become stronger, because if you take a position like that of Nawwal al-Sa'dawi who was imprisoned for 3 months in the time of al-Sadat and I was imprisoned 13 years at a time prior to that, through the things that weaken you if you go to prison you will not find anyone to ask after you while if there is a strong movement abroad, no matter how much we may be in prison, you will feel that the struggle is still going on, because people are present and are asking about you, and there is an increase in movement and the like, which draws a greater and greater number of people, in the crisis which we are suffering from in many Arab countries. It is not just a crisis of ruling regimes in many Arab countries and those connected to foreign powers. Rather, it is also the crisis of opposition parties, progressive parties and parties defending the interests of the people which cannot now find a formula and form organizations which will strengthen the struggle. Of course this is a difficult process but it is an issue that is relevant."

On the war of the camps, the Iranian aggression against Iraq and the position of intellectuals on these two issues, don't they constitute the first signs of a crisis in Arab culture in the current situation, in light of the discrepancies between this Arab state of affairs and the requirements of its existence?

Dr Nawwal spoke:

"The fact is that we were all happy when Khomeyni's regime drove out the Shah and we were all delighted, but a great disappointment came. If some people had expected that Khomeyni would not do anything positive, perhaps they knew his history and knew that any religious regime would turn into one of terror. The thing that was revealed recently, which I knew from my frequent travels, is that it is international colonialism which supports the fundamentalist religious currents such as the current that exists in Iran and has moved into power, the currents that exist in the world, whether they are fundamentalist Islamic, Christian or Jewish, and I was very happy when the transaction of American arms to Iran was revealed, because there had been many people who had imagined that the Khomeyni regime was against America and that it was against colonialism, and so forth. When the existence of a relationship between them and also its war against Iraq was disclosed, why Iran is fighting Iraq and claiming that it is fighting colonialism, bearing in mind that Iraq, its neighbor, is an Islamic Arab country, then all these claims are false.

"With respect to the war of the tents and the intellectuals in the region, the presence of Israel in the region, the loss of Palestine and the loss of part of Lebanon, the Golan and part of Sinai, all these phenomena cause the Arab intellectuals sleepless nights, but a kind of capitulation among them

exists known as defeatism, and this defeatism arises because the peoples are alone and find that there are governments, peoples and intellectuals who have not yet become assimilated among the people and they are in the middle between the governments and peoples, vacillating between the two. No one is giving us an analysis of political events or predicting what will happen. If there had been a prediction of the Khomeyni revolution and its position on the Arabs it would have been totally different. The situation now is that there are fundamentalist forces which exist in Egypt that are supporting Iran and there are fundamentalist forces in the Sudan and various Arab countries that are supporting Iran so far and striking out at democracy. This is a very big problem. Democracy will not be created in the Arab countries through religious terrorism. That is not possible. It is not possible that there could be democracy in the shadow of laws like the September laws or laws like al-Sadat's ill-famed laws which arrogated people's freedoms. It is not possible that there could be democracy without women, half the society, and it is not possible that there could be democracy while the people it produces are illiterate."

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CSO: 4504/178

## BRIEFS

GHALI URGES ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL--Cairo, 29 Mar (MENA)--Egypt has reiterated its support for the Palestinian people who are struggling to obtain their right to self-determination and establish an independent state on their land under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, made this assertion in a statement to mark the anniversary of Land Day tomorrow. Egypt also appealed to Israel to stop its expansionist policy and the building of illegal settlements on the occupied Arab land. It stressed the need for a quick withdrawal to the 1967 border in order to ensure that a just and comprehensive peace can be established in the region. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 29 Mar 87 NC] /6091

CSO: 4500/77



## SEPTEMBER LAWS CALLED THREAT TO DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 19 Mar 87 pp 1, 8

[Text]

*It appears that the political test of wills between those who oppose the September 1983 Islamic laws and those who support them has begun to become increasingly acute. A group of zealous Islamic fundamentalists within the law enforcement agencies of the state have stepped up their implementation of the Islamic laws, whose implementation had been suspended during the transitional period and which many members of the public have assumed were in force as a matter of public policy.*

*Now, this policy of suspending the implementation of the September laws has been put to question by a series of activities in which certain security officials have targeted certain places and individuals with proper warrants and quickly sent them to trial before certain courts of their choice and people are sentenced almost*

*summarily. Some legal institutions have now been forced to actively question the wisdom of not actually cancelling the September laws instead of just suspending them. There is also the whole question of the human rights involved in these cases in which homes or clubs are raided, people arrested and sent for trial the next day and sentenced on the same day.*

*Showing concern for the new trend, a member of the Sudan Bar Association's executive Committee, Taha Ibrahim told Sudan Times yesterday that the presence of the September laws will always constitute a problem for democracy and human rights in the country and is complicating the issues of National Unity. He said that the conditions which prevailed when Nimeiri imposed the Islamic laws on the Sudan as a repressive measure are still with us to-*

*day, and that the government has failed to correct the economic and political problems facing the country and the September laws may serve again as a repressive arm of even this democratically elected regime.*

*The member of the Sudan Bar Association said that he doubted very much if the government of Prime Minister Sadig El Mahdi can cancel the September laws, because he said that when Sadig signed the National Reconciliation Agreement with Nimeiri in 1977, one of the conditions Sadig had asked for and got, was the imposition of the Islamic law in the country. Would such a person be expected to cancel the September laws, he asked?*

*Sayed Taha Ibrahim said that if the September laws were not cancelled, he could not see how the civil war situation in the South could be resolved. He ad-*

*ded that if the September laws were reintroduced the way they now seem to be, many Sudanese will once again look to John Gornag as a liberator and Saviour the way they did under Nimeiri.*

*The member of the Sudan Bar Association attacked the transitional government for failing to cancel the September laws, saying that their suspension had complicated life for the many citizens who have been sentenced under these laws and who now remain in jails, not knowing whether or not the sentences on them were being carried out.*

/12828  
CSO: 4500/78

## NATIONAL ALLIANCE LEADER INTERVIEWED

Khartoum GUIDING STAR in English 19 Mar 87 pp 6, 7

[Interview with Taysir Muhammad Ahmad 'Ali by Muhammad 'Isa Ahmad]

[Text]

Conducted by: Mohd Eisa Ahmed.

Translated by: Abdon Agaw.

Extracted from: "Essiyasa" newspaper issue number 234 of February 21, 1987.

The National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country (NASC) recently held a rally in Port Sudan which was addressed by Dr. Tayseer Mohd Ahmed Ali... Despite my many reservations about the role of NASC after the establishment of democratic rule, journalistic curiosity spurred me to go to the Graduates Club where the rally was being held.

The rally was huge and the discussion, which was constructive, met the expectations of the throngs of citizens who attended it. At the beginning of his talks, Dr. Tayseer let it be known to the audience that it was not his aim to incite friction between any groups or parties, but rather that the objective was to clarify the role played by NASC in the attempts to bring about peace in Southern Sudan.

When the rally came to a close, "Essiyasa" newspaper requested an interview with Dr. Tayseer. His initial reaction was one of surprise because according to him, he thought he was on the black-list of "Essiyasa". He therefore saw no point in granting an interview that would not be published. But I told him that differences of opinion does not interfere with cordiality. Furthermore, I explained to him that as far as I was concerned I had not received any directives from the newspaper's management ordering me to toe a particular political line, and that to date all the material I had written had been published. Dr. Tayseer then smiled and yielded saying that if I were ready with my recorder he was ready for my questions there and then.

#### **SPLM AND PEACE EFFORTS:**

**ESSIYASA:** I have learnt that you have held about 23 meetings with responsible officials of SPLM in Addis Ababa; do you feel that the Movement is serious about peace initiatives?

**TAYSEER:** Yes, I am definitely convinced that the Movement is serious about peace initiatives. In fact this question has been repeatedly asked and on many occasions. Perhaps the reason is that there is an attempt on the part of responsible authorities to impose a blackout on news about the movement and play down this fact. This has made it necessary for us to resort to direct contacts with the mass media and the general public through rallies in a bid to break this blackout. It might also explain why up to this moment we have not been able to view the SPLM in its proper perspective and hence assess its seriousness about the peace initiatives. An account of a few incidents in the recent past will serve to illustrate this last point.

In September 1985 when I was first delegated by NASC to start contacts with the SPLM, I carried a letter from NASC addressed to the Movement outlining NASC's position on the need to stop the war in the South. In that letter NASC proposed that SPLM should enter into dialogue with it and that if the idea was acceptable to them the SPLM should go ahead to fix the time and place of the talks. After a lengthy meeting with Dr. John Garang in which he welcomed the proposal, the SPLM leader handed me a letter addressed to NASC conveying his consent off the idea and proposing that the meeting take place on 7/12/1985. Back in Khartoum, my colleagues in NASC thought that the date was too far off and decided to send me back to Addis to request our brothers in SPLM to propose another earlier date. To my surprise the SPLM brothers gave us a free hand to fix the date to our convenience. I therefore proceeded to fix the date in accordance with the directive of NASC which was that the meeting should be held within a week, and the SPLM agreed without hesitation. Unfortunately other developments of urgent nature preoccupied us and we could not keep the date. Nevertheless I was sent back to Addis Ababa after three we-

eks by NASC to consult with SPLM leaders over another date. Despite our being to blame for not keeping the original date, the SPLM leaders' good-spiritedly agreed to our second proposal. This phenomenon was to be repeated more than three times, all the time with us in NASC to blame for failure to keep the dateline, but our brothers in the Movement were ever patient and always obliged... In fact there are so many examples of positive attitude, all of which need not be narrated here, which have convinced me beyond doubt that the responsible authorities in the Movement are genuinely interested in reaching an agreement that will bring about peace after creating a conducive atmosphere.

**GOVERNMENT AND SPLM: WHO IS GENUINE.**

**ESSIYASA:** Do I understand from what you have said that the Government is not as genuinely positive as the SPLM is about the Southern problem and the peace process? Don't you think practical realities contradict this impression?

**TAYSEER:** Sayed Mohamed I am afraid I am a bit uncomfortable about the way you have framed your question because I prefer not to use the terms 'genuineness' or 'positiveness' in reference to issues of such great sensitivity. However, let us go back to the subject. During our first contact with the Movement and after sustained deliberations we reached an agreement to the effect that the Movement would despatch a delegation to Khartoum to meet with the Transitional Military Council. Then, while waiting to return to Khartoum, we got a surprise visit at our hotel from Dr. John Garang. He was carrying a copy of 'El Sahafa' newspaper which carried in banner headlines the statements of General Swaraddahab accusing the SPLM of lack of seriousness and declaring that the Government would go ahead with the constitutional conference with or without the participation of SPLM.

We were truly astonished by these pronouncements which effectively nullified our previous agreement with the TMC that adverse media campaign against the SPLM would be suspended while our negotiations with them were under way. Confronted with this development we had obviously no choice but to pack our luggage and return to Khartoum. Nonetheless we considered that our mission had been a great success having managed on our first visit to Addis Ababa to persuade the SPLM to send a delegation to Khartoum to start dialogue. That agreement was no small feat and we considered it a major stride toward peace.

On the night we returned to Khartoum with this piece of good news we learnt that Dr. El Gizouli Dafallah was preparing to go on a long trip to America and Europe. My colleague Dr. Khaled Yagi insisted that we contact Dr. Gizouli immediately before his departure so as to give him full details of our agreement with the SPLM and so that any pronouncements he might make abroad should positively reflect this development. Accordingly we met Dr. Gizouli in his house. Apart from myself and Dr. Khaled Yagi there was Dr. Tariq Ismael. At the end of that three-hour meeting in which we gave the Prime Minister all the details and furnished him with copies of all the correspondences we had brought Dr. Gizouli commended NASC on this achievement, and I believe I never saw him in a happier mood than at that time. I remember I emphasized to him that it was not enough for him to praise our achievement or commend the positive attitude of the Movement but that what was more important and required of him at that time was to reflect that spirit in his public pronouncements while abroad so that a firm ground could be created for the return of mutual trust between the Government and SPLM. But alas what happened next!! The man dumbfounded us on the very first leg of his visit when during a stop-over in Cairo he declared that the SPLM was not genuine about peace talks and that it was a terrorist movement. With that statement the Government suddenly took a belligerent stance and was now effectively on no talking terms with the SPLM. And as if once was not enough Dr. El Gizouli repeated that statement wherever he went on that trip. I say what I have said today for honesty's sake and for history as well because I hold Dr. Gizouli Dafallah personally responsible for derailing the peace process and for deepening the gulf of distrust between the Movement and the Government. In view of all these facts can we possibly assert that the Movement is not genuine?

#### **EL SADDIQ'S INITIATIVE:**

**ESSIYASA:** Perhaps we should consider what has happened as past memories. However the situation is quite different today because of the initiative which was made by Sayed El Saddiq El Mahdi, the Prime Minister, to meet with the leaders of SPLM in Addis Ababa notwithstanding the fact that that meeting did not bear any fruits, do you still consider that it was not a genuine initiative?



**TAYSEER:** Brother Mohamed, may I say this for the record. Prior to the said meeting I cautioned Sayed El Saddiq and his accompanying delegation that they should not push things too hard. I pointed out that since it was going to be the first direct meeting between a responsible Government official and the Movement, and in view of the fact that the thick residue of grievances had created distrust over the years, they should not expect the resolution of the outstanding issues in the first meeting. Nevertheless it was quite possible to achieve in that meeting things which could enhance and give impetus to the peace process. I remember that among the things discussed in that meeting was the issue of the September Laws. The SPLM expressed their stand on these laws saying that they had been imposed on the Sudanese people without being subjected to a popular referendum, and that they had had the adverse effect of sharply dividing the Sudanese people. Sayed El Saddiq concurred with that view of the Movement and remarked that he himself would have been tried by those very laws which in his view actually needed revision. The two sides agreed that each should take a step toward achieving peace... On the spur of the moment, Sayed El Saddiq had enthusiastically declared that he would direct the Attorney General to prepare a set of alternative laws to replace the September Laws, provided those laws would still be Islamic but with a human face. The representatives of the Movement immediately protested maintaining that they would not cease fighting simply because Nimeiri's Islamic laws were amended to usher in a version of Saddiq's Islamic laws. Thus the meeting, which had taken 9 hours, came to a dead line. Nevertheless, I personally consider that this meeting was not a failure and that it had achieved some objective. For one thing it was characterized by a spirit of mutual respect despite its lengthiness; for another none of the participants withdrew until it was over. One had expected that the media would utilise this opportunity to promote the peace process. Unfortunately this episode was not properly exploited. Sayed Saddiq and his companions wanted quick results and

thought that one meeting would solve the problem. That in my opinion was a dangerous oversimplification of a problem that obviously calls for a series of sessions of dialogue to reach some common understanding.

**THE AIRLINER INCIDENT:**

**ESSIYASA:** Dr. Tayseer, no doubt you, like all others, must have followed the dramatic incident that came close on the heels of that meeting i.e. the downing of the civilian airliner by SPLA. How come therefore that you should be critical of Government organs while it was the SPLM which perpetrated that incident and by so doing blew up all bridges?

**TAYSSER:** As a matter of fact I hold a different view about that incident in the interest of peace and peace efforts. To start with I wish that this incident should be viewed in its proper perspective so that people could arrive at the correct evaluation of the situation. After the meeting between Sayed El Saddiq and the Movement the joint follow-up committees of SPLM and NASC held a number of meetings in accordance with what was stipulated in the Koka Dam Declaration. When we had completed the meetings and were preparing to leave for Khartoum Major Arok Thon Arok, the official spokesman of SPLM and Chairman of the follow-up committee, contacted me and informed me that they had declared a state of general mobilization and that they had issued a warning that they would shoot down any plane overflying war zone One. When I heard this I could not control my nerves and I protested furiously, pointing out that we had gone a long way in the peace process and that in my judgement their declaration would render futile all the efforts that had so far been fruitfully exerted. He countered by explaining that there had been overriding development that had dictated upon them the taking of that decision. He went on to elaborate that the SPLM had got hold of intelligence from extremely reliable sources confirming that the Prime Minister had requested the Libyans to send bombers to participate in the military operations that were under way in the South. He said that there had been a precedent to this sort of intervention in March 1986 under the Transitional Government, adding that there were actually Libyan

troops in El Fasher area which he believed were poised to move into the South to participate in the fighting. I tried to challenge the credibility of his sources pointing out that their intelligence might be deliberately designed to mislead them with the aim of obstructing the peace process. But he persisted, further indicating that they had got hold of the minutes of the meetings and that there was absolutely no room to doubt that information.

Upon my return to Khartoum from Addis Ababa on the same day the plane was shot down, I learnt that the declaration of the Movement had been received by the Government and that it had been broadcasted on both the Radio and T.V. Dr. Yagi proposed that we immediately proceed to meet the Prime Minister. In the discussion that ensued the Prime Minister admitted a number of things. He confided that there had actually been Libyan troops in Western Sudan who had entered the country during the time of the Transitional Government, but that the Libyan authorities had agreed to withdraw them. He also confirmed that Libyan troops had practically taken part in the military operations in Rumbek area during the transitional period. He also told us that the Libyans had offered to assist in the war but he had turned down the offer on the basis that it would constitute a foreign intervention in an internal conflict that concerned the Sudanese alone.

After the downing of the plane, NASC immediately issued a statement denouncing and condemning the incident. Dr. Yagi and myself sent a copy of this statement to Sudan News Agency (SUNA) for publication but for reasons not known to us it remained unpublished until today. Our motive for condemning this incident was to bring pressure to bear on all the parties concerned to take it in stride and persevere in activating dialogue and speeding to bring an end to the bloodshed in the South.

As a result of this incident contacts with the SPLM were suspended, in compliance with the Government decision banning all contacts with the Movement. As the general atmosphere was loaded with emotion it was not possible to open channels of dialogue.

Then came the big surprise with a delegation of the National Islamic Front flying off to Addis Ababa to hold talks with the Movement, despite the declared Government injunction. On our part

we refrained from making any comment - positive or negative - about this initiative in keeping with our commitment to the peace option regardless of whoever champions it, and in view of the fact that the nation is not any single group's private property. In fact we had monitored all along behind-the-scene moves by party personalities at the highest echelons of their parties who had been shuttling between Khartoum and Addis Ababa for contacts with the SPLM. This was followed by international efforts which involved Libya, Syria, United Kingdom, U.S.A. and Egypt, all upon the request of the Sudan Government, while we the Sudanese in NASC were prohibited from resuming the peace efforts in which we had gone a long way with the Movement.

**IS SPLM SIMPLY A PAWN:**

**ESSIYASA:** Some people held the view that the Sudan resorted to international mediation after it became convinced that the SPLM was a mere pawn for some foreign power whose interest lies in the destabilisation of the Sudan. Consequently, they argue, the SPLM does not have the power of taking the decision to stop the war.

**TAYSEER:** To start with, and in order to arrive at a specific reply to this question, we have to determine which is that foreign power for which the SPLM is a pawn. If it is Ethiopia, as the various information media are wont to accuse it, then how could we expect Britain and America to be of help to us when they do not belong to the same ideological bloc with Ethiopia? In a similar vein why couldn't we use Syria and Yemen to intercede with Ethiopia so as to stop the war? Obviously there is nothing to support this accusation in practical terms and I think it is a case of responsible people simply burying their heads in the sand and shying away from facing the truth. The SPLM and the armed conflict in the South are the inevitable consequence of a certain internal political situation. That situation has been constituting a Sudanese powder keg which has now been detonated by Sudanese hands but shall not be extinguished except by the Sudanese themselves.

I wonder Sayed Mohd whether you are aware that the headquarters of the SPLM is in Jebel Boma inside Sudanese territory and that the SPLM has offices in Addis Ababa, London, Paris, Frankfurt and U.S.A. You will also notice that none of these places is a communist or socialist country

Anyway the point is that the fabrication of such accusations does not serve the cause of peace, and I am personally convinced that the SPLM is not under the control or influence of any foreign power.

#### **WHO FINANCES THE WAR: ?**

**ESSIYASA:** Dr. Tayseer, if as you maintain the SPLM is not under the control or influence of some foreign power, then who do you think is financing this costly war for the Movement?

**TAYSEER:** The Movement has its own explanation about this issue. They argue that just as the Sudan Government does not manufacture weapons but acquires them either as military assistance or through loans granted by some friendly countries without compromising the sovereignty of the Sudan, the Movement has friends who sympathise with its cause and provide it with the necessary weapons without interfering in its decisions. And when we look at the matter within the context of political parties, we find that there are parties known to have very close relations with certain countries but are not being accused of treason or of being agents of those countries. Similarly if the SPLM has close links with Ethiopia this should not constitute enough ground to hurl against it accusations of treason and agency. In fact it is in the interest of Ethiopia that peace should prevail in the Sudan so that the SPLM should return to the country and become one of the political forces in the Sudanese political arena and thus provide it with an ally that would contribute towards the maintenance of good neighbourly relations.

I wish to mention here in all honesty and for history's sake that during my many visits to Ethiopia I never experienced any obstruction or harassment from the Ethiopian authorities. The same thing can be said of all the meetings that were held by NASC and SPLM - and there were 23 of them - which involved only Sudanese and were never attended by any Ethiopian in any capacity whatsoever.

#### **PROSPECTS FOR PEACE:**

**ESSIYASA:** What is your assessment of the situation in the South? Do you think there are prospects for achieving peace in the near future?

**TAYSEER:** As a result of our last meeting with the SPLM on 10/1/1987 the joint committee of NASC and SPLM reached some agreement following which SPLM wrote a letter to NASC on 12/1/1987, containing several specific points. First of all it reiterated that SPLM supports NASC in its endeavours to achieve peace within the context of the **KOKA DAM Declaration**. Secondly, it declared that SPLM will immediately cease fire if the political forces and NASC succeed to freeze Article 4 of the 1985 Transitional Constitution on the sources of legislation, and endorse the alternative laws for replacing the September Laws which were formulated through the Bar Association and which were drafted by 25 specialised committees before being handed over to the Attorney General more than 4 months ago.

So as you can see brother Mohd, peace is obviously not out of reach as might be the imagination of some people. The real problem, however, is to be found in the political balances in the light of which protagonists base their evaluation of the issue.

**CONCLUSION: (Interviewer's Remarks)**

The above conversation with Dr. Tayseer Mohamed Ahmed Ali not only conveys his personal viewpoint but also reflects the position of the National Alliance on the issue of peace in Southern Sudan and their attitude towards the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. The Government on the other hand has adopted a military option which the media seem to be reflecting these days with accounts of the Army's victories in the South and their destruction of SPLA strongholds there. These papers have been reporting that the SPLA has been forced to dispense with the services of large groups of its soldiers for lack of adequate food and other military supplies and also because of the severe military and political pressures that have been mobilized against it by the Government.

In the light of such reports can one risk the conclusion that the SPLM is in its last throes and that the legitimate authority in the country is about to impose some peace in the South through sheer military might? Or is the South still a minefield packed with drums of highly explosive gunpowder, as Dr. Tayseer stated, and



that peace shall remain elusively out of reach unless the fighting parties lay down their arms and resort to dialogue.

I express these fears while at the back of my mind lingers Anya-Nya II organization, the current Government ally that has of late started to release strongly-worded statements in a language previously unknown about it and threatening to take its own decisions independently... That will undoubtedly further complicate the Southern problem. Over and above these considerations, the Southern Sudan Political Association has accused the Government of not being genuine enough about creating a conducive atmosphere for convening the national constitutional conference, and of espousing undemocratic policies which violate the constitution. It has also lamented that the many lies fabricated by the Government of El Saddiq El Mahdi can only serve to bring more death and destruction to the South.

/12828  
CSO: 4500/79

## RELIEF NEEDS IN SOUTH DESCRIBED

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 18 Mar 87 pp 3, 6

[Text]

*With the outbreak of Civil war in the Sudan since 1983, the SPLA declared Southern Sudan as war zone No.1 and fierce fighting has been raging there between SPLA and the Khartoum Government's forces from that time. The immediate effects of the war have been the displacement of the civilian people enmasse, the disappearance of their property (cattle, goats and sheep), especially among the Dinka and the Nuer who are traditional pastoralists and the destruction of sorghum plantations by the Khartoum militia known as Arab Peoples' Army.*

*Coupled with the war, is the drought situation in some parts of South Sudan, especially Kapoeta district in the Eastern Equatorial and the Lakes Province in Bahr El Ghazal*

*As a result of the factors described above the hunger situation in Southern Sudan has reached a critical level. Malnutrition among children has become rampant. The civilian population of urban background is fleeing towns for the countryside in search of security and food which food is not available in the countryside either. SRRA plans to assist this civilian population as far as it*

*can reach given availability of means. The areas and estimated populations affected in Southern Sudan may be summarized as follows:-*

**2 (a) AREAS AND POPULATION AFFECTED**

**BAHR EL GHAZAL**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AREA**

**1- Lakes Province (Rumbek Yirol & Tonj) 750,000**

**2- Aweil 500,000 3- Gogrial 300,000 4- Western District (Wau Area) 250,000 5- Raga Area 5,000**

**(b) UPPER NILE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AREA**

**6- Bor Area 250,000**

**7- Akobo Area 150,000**

**8- Nasir Area 125,000**

**9- Kodok Area 60,000**

**10- Wat Area 75,000**

**11- Malut Area 50,000**

**12- Malakal Area 100,000**

**13- Adok Area 10,000**

**14- Bentiu Area 150,000**

- 15- Ler Area 10,000
- 16- Bailiet Area 15,000
- 17- Fangak Area 20,000
- (c) EQUATORIA ADMINISTRATIVE AREA
- 18- Kapoeta Area 75,000
- 19- Chuk Udu area 30,000
- 20- Torit Area 25,000
- 21- Magui Area 1,000
- 22- Obo & Polataka area 4,000
- 23- Mongala Area 15,000
- 24- Mundari Area 15,000
- 25- Tumbura Area 5,000
- 26- Terkaka Area 10,000
- TOTAL 2,950,000

Out of the total displaced and hunger stricken population of 2,950,000 SRRA is able to reach 1,165,000 without difficulty, using vehicles, boats, animals' traction and human porters. The population is based mainly in Eastern Equatoria and many areas in Upper Nile administrative regions. As for affected population in Bahr el Ghazal, SRRA is not able to reach it at the moment except Yirol which could be served and supplied by air transport.

#### EMERGENCY FOOD NEEDS

As has been hinted above in this document, SRRA is able to reach a population of 1,165,000 in Southern Sudan. The population is broken down into 233,000 families with an average of 5 members per family. SRRA intends to launch

emergency food operations into Southern Sudan for a first round of six months beginning with March 1987. During these months the population is to be assisted while, at the same time, preparing, whenever possible, for the next agricultural season which commences in the month of April every year. The food items urgently required are: Maize, milkpowder, dried fish, lentils, beans and edible oil. Maize, dried fish and oil are available in Kenya, the rest are in scarce supply. Therefore, it would be preferable to have these scarce items donated in kind and imported from abroad. Thus, in the calculation below, the price unit for the items is left blank.

It is calculated that each family of five persons will get 1 kilogram of maize a day, 500 grams milkpowder, 300 grams lentils, 500 grams beans, 1 kilogram dried fish and 2 pints of edible oil. These rations are by far below UN/USAID recommended rations for total nutritional supply of Sorghum (Durra) 500 kilograms, milkpowder and oil 1 gallon for five persons a day. The quantities and price where available are listed below, calculated on the basis of

233 families for the periods of 1 month and 6 months:-

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#### CLOTHING AND BLANKETS

New clothing and blankets are required for a population 1,165,000 who are either in rags or without clothing and blankets at all. Because of health problems, secondhand clothing and blankets are only received with prior approval from the health authorities whose normally strict procedures consume time. The quantities needed are as follows:-

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#### PROGRAMME NO.3: AGRICULTURE

##### (a) OBJECTIVE

Southern Sudan, in terms of arable land, has a great potential. Indeed, it is one of the fertile areas in the East Africa region evergreen, swampy and rainfed. Therefore, the objective of this programme is to enable the displaced population to utilize the agriculture resources within their environment so that they may become self-supporting as soon as possible. Emergency relief aid is desirable only as a short term, temporary measure if an element of dependency syndrome has to be avoided.

The best assistance possible is to 'help displaced population help themselves' through provision of necessary facilities and means. Thus the objectives could be realized by means of timely introduction of method of intermediate technology. For, mechanized or advanced technology would yet be difficult for the local farmers to handle under the prevailing circumstances of instability in the country. Consequently, the basic requirements for our people now in agriculture are the provision of seeds, simple agricultural implements like hoes, jimses, etc. improved Oxplough, improved transport facilities using vehicles where road network are available and animals traction to, for example, pull carwheels where there are no established roads.

#### (b) EQUIPMENT

This programme is planned to benefit 1,165,000 people broken down into 233,000 families with an average of 5 members per family. It is estimated that every family should have at least one of the agricultural implements calculated below as well as the supply of seeds for 1987 cultivation season.

### HUMAN MEDICAMENTS

#### (a) CONDITIONS

Health and sanitation problems facing the displaced civilian population in the Southern Sudan are becoming almost insurmountable. For the past three years people have been deprived of medical care. The clinics have been abandoned due to lack of medical supplies and equipment. SRRA is involved in reviving existing clinics as well as setting mobile clinics in the liberated areas. It suffices here to mention that detailed requirement lists of medical requirements are available with SRRA and can be made available to interested donors.

#### VETERINARY DRUGS

The entire livestock population in Southern Sudan is on the verge of extermination through human destruction and diseases. The Arab militia (Marahlyin) have looted and destroyed a great deal of livestock population in Southern Sudan.

dan. Diseases such as rinderpest, Typhus, CBPP, Foot and Mouth disease, Anthrax, HS and Black Quarter are taking their share.

The continuing uncontrolled disappearance of livestock population in Southern Sudan constitutes a serious threat to the Southern Sudanese people since about two thirds of the Southern population are pastoralists and therefore depend on animal husbandry. SRRA plans to procure veterinary drugs and vaccines to cater for 5.7 million cattle. As in the case of human medical needs, the drugs required are also identified and could be supplied to interested donors.

#### D. CONCLUSION

The hunger situation in the South still remains very grave and desperate. Recently, the Prime Minister, Sadig El Mahdi went public claiming that there was no hunger in the Sudan and that in fact the Sudan had this year produced surplus

food. If this is true then it must be in the Northern part of the Sudan, not in the South. Such surplus food could not possibly reach the Southern Sudan because it has been cut off from the North since SPLM/SPLA declared it as War Zone No.1 since 1983.

The Southern Sudanese people have had a very poor harvest during the 1986 cultivation season. Most of them did not cultivate because of the war situation which disrupted their homes and rendered them displaced. Those who were able to cultivate lost their crop through drought and pests, e.g., locusts. Indeed, the whole Southern Sudan is a disaster area. Mass starvation of people this year could only be averted if the donor community could ignore Sadig El Mahdi's claim and continue to give emergency aid to the people of the South. This claim depicts the same actual attitude of the minority rulers in Khartoum not to care for any other

person except those within the domain of the ruling clique. It is only through SRRA that a meaningful emergency aid programme can be organized. SRRA stands ready to explore means and ways of an effective emergency relief operation with all concerned agencies. Most of the affected areas lie in the Sudd (Swamp) region and transport using vehicles is seasonal. The months starting from now up to May are the best months for land transport in Southern Sudan.

#### CALCULATIONS

##### ITEM

Maize UNIT 1 kg 1 MONTH  
MT 6990 6 MONTHS MT.  
41,940 PRICE IN US FOR  
6 MONTHS 5,450,200

##### ITEM

Milkpowder UNIT 500 g  
1 MONTH 3495 6 MONTHS  
MT.20,970 PRICE IN  
US FOR 6 MONTHS - -

##### ITEM

Lentils UNIT 300 g 1 MONTH  
MT 12,582 PRICE IN

US FOR 6 MONTHS - -

##### ITEM

Beans UNIT 500 g 1 MONTH  
MT 3495 6 MONTHS  
MT 20,970 PRICE IN US  
FOR 6 MONTHS - - -  
FOR 6 MONTHS 7,339,500

##### ITEM

Dried fish UNIT 1 g 1 MONTH  
MT 6990 6 MONTHS  
MT 41,940 PRICE IN US  
FOR 6 MONTHS 16,776,  
000

##### ITEM

Edible Oil UNIT 2 pints  
1 MONTH MT 3900  
6 MONTHS MT.23402 PRICE  
IN US FOR 6 MONTHS  
15,913,360  
Totals 1 MONTH MT.  
26967  
6 MONTHS MT.161,840  
PRICE IN US FOR 6  
MONTHS 45,481,060

##### ITEM

Clothing UNIT 100 pcs  
BALES 10,000 PRICE US  
67,500  
Blankets UNIT 100 pcs  
Bales 10,000 Price US  
1,000,000  
Total 1,067,500

## BRIEFS

NEW OFFICIALS FOR STUDENTS' UNION--Anwar Malud Dhiban, chairman of the Executive Office of the National Union of Iraqi Students and Youth, chaired the first meeting of the Executive Office following the end of the 13th general conference of the Union, in which a new order was elected to the Union. During the meeting, which was attended by the elected members of the Executive Office, the distribution of responsibilities of the office was carried out upon its new members. Muhhammad Farhan Jum'ah became representative of the Executive Office and official for the Foreign Relations Office; 'Adil Dhanun Saffari became representative of the Executive Office and official for the Office of Research and Educational and Scientific Studies; Sayf-al-Din Mahmud became official for the Office of Vanguard Affairs; Husayn al-Jasim became official for the Office of Student Affairs; Sa'ib 'Abd-al-Qadir Isma'il became official for the Office of Youth Affairs; Sadiq Muhammad 'Abdallah became official for the Office of Administration and Organization; Naji Fayyad became official for the Office of Culture and Information; and 'Aliyah al-Naqib became official for the Society of Student Housing. [Excerpt] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 20 Feb 87 p 4] /9871

CSO: 4404/284



GAZA'S AL-SHAWWA ON BUILDING PORT IN GAZA

JN110651 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 10 Mar 87

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The idea of establishing a commercial port on the Gaza coast has come to light after many exporters and importers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip have communicated their problems pertaining to importation and exportation through the bridges and Israeli ports to various Israeli and Jordanian officials. Yesterday, Jordanian Minister Marwan Dudin stated that Jordan favors the idea of creating a port in Gaza. However, he said this project is not being studied and was not discussed in the past with any West Bank or Gaza figures. We telephoned [former Gaza mayor] Rashad al-Shawwa for his opinion about the subject.

[Begin al-Shawwa recording] The establishment of a port in Gaza would undoubtedly be very useful and would enable us to export our products directly without going through Israeli ports. However, the costs of a port of this kind are very high, rendering the issue rather difficult because the quantity of exported materials from Gaza does not correspond to the enormous cost of establishing such a port. However, the establishment of a port is undoubtedly a national wish. This is because if a port were constructed in Gaza and our [the Palestine] question solved, the Gaza port will serve the West Bank, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the Gulf area. A port in Gaza means that the commodities which would be unloaded in Gaza could reach Baghdad, Kuwait, Jeddah, or the UAE within 48 hours. This is a very good thing. However, I believe that this subject is premature at the present. [end al-Shawwa recording]

/9738

CSO: 4400/181

# MASARWI, ISRAELI ARAB CONSUL-GENERAL IN ATLANTA, PROFILED

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST (Magazine Supplement) in English 6 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by Yosef Goell]

[Text]

CAN AN Israeli Arab successfully represent Israel abroad? It's never been tried before, so we will have to wait two to three years until Mohammed Massarwi of Kafr Kari completes his tour of duty as the new Israeli consul-general in Atlanta, Georgia, to judge how successful this experiment has been.

But if anyone can succeed, it will be Massarwi, or someone like him. The 47-year-old lawyer and recently resigned chairman of the Kafr Kari local council is already an adept diplomat if one is to judge by how he juggles the need to assuage both Israeli Jewish and Arab sensibilities. "I'm both an Arab and an Israeli," he told me at his home in the Wadi Ara village. "I've more or less fulfilled my aspirations in the Arab sphere. I don't view myself as functioning just in that sphere. We, of the younger generation of Israeli Arabs, have been demanding for some time now that we be given opportunities for full integration into all aspects of Israel. I see my appointment in the foreign service as just such an opportunity."

The initiative for Massarwi's appointment came from the post-rotation Foreign Ministry where it was decided by the new Peres-Weizman-Beilin leadership that the time was long past to appoint an Arab to the foreign service. In the last elections, Massarwi had run as number 6 on Ezer Weizman's Yahad List which won three seats. The connection with Weizman clearly

helped catapult Massarwi into the small group of Israeli Arabs who were being considered for the appointment once the decision had been taken in principle.

WHEN HE was interviewed by the ministry, he was not asked about his political views but about his background: education, knowledge of languages, number and age of children. Massarwi's political positions are no secret. "I'm not going to change my opinions at my age, and they're no secret. I don't feel comfortable with the sobriquet 'good Arab,' which is often used by Israeli Jews to categorize some of us Arabs. I am a proud Arab. I am also a good and loyal Israeli. I also care, not only about Arab affairs, but about what is good for Israel.

"I have no intention of going abroad to badmouth Israel and tear down her image. To the contrary, my task also includes *hasbara* [information], putting Israel forward in its best light, and I believe that I'm fully capable of doing just that."

How then does a proud Arab who is also a loyal Israeli, and who happens to be the Israeli consul-general in Atlanta, walk between the drops on the thorny issue of Palestinian nationalism? "I feel myself to be part of a very broad Israeli consensus on the striving for peace with the Arab world. But there is no sure-fire prescription for how best to strive to attain that peace. What I do know is that this country is the birthplace of two peoples, one of which has, and the other which has not yet, realized its national aspirations."

Massarwi makes no bones of his belief in the desirability of Israel helping that second people - the Palestinians - to realize their national goals, in the sense of a Palestinian entity alongside, and certainly not instead of, Israel. From that point of view his opinions are well within the gamut of the Labour Party's dovish camp.

It also means that he can expect to be constantly in the gunshots of the Likud and Tehiya Knesset factions, waiting for the slightest slip of tongue. He says that when his appointment was announced, he was inundated with congratulations from

many Jewish friends but that the reaction among the Arabs was mixed. Many Arabs I have spoken to ask what good would the appointment do for Israeli Arabs? "What we need are appointments in the fields of education, housing, municipal administration and industrial development; and here, not in Atlanta."

Massarwi is not particularly worried by that criticism or by the prospect of being a potential target of Israel's right-wing parties. He has a great measure of confidence in his own tact, and political savvy, and believes that an Arab in the foreign service is an example of the sort of steps needed to fully integrate young, educated Arabs into all aspects of Israeli life, not only those concerned with Arab affairs. "It should have come 10 years ago, however."

WHAT ABOUT his ability to perform an important task required of all Israeli diplomats abroad, — representing Israel in the Jewish community. "I don't see myself having any problems going to synagogues and temples — if I'm invited. My Moslem religion is very tolerant of other religions and especially of the religion of the Jews, the People of the Book."

"I expect, of course that I will come across extremists among the Jews, just like there are extremists among the Arabs, who would want to boycott me. But I think I'll have no trouble at all with Jews of goodwill who share a common desire for co-existence."

In regard to this latter point, I spoke to Shinui Knesset Member Zaidan Atashi, a Druse and the first non-Jewish Israeli consul, serving in New York between 1972-76. Atashi told me that for starters an Israeli Druse could be expected to have fewer problems than an Israeli Arab in such a post. "When I was appointed — the idea came from the then-Arab affairs adviser Shmuel Toledano — I was angry that the only paper that wrote that my appointment could prove problematic was Mapam's *Al Hamishmar*. That made me all the more determined to succeed."

"We Druse have no hangups in regard to Israel, like many Arabs have. Our loyalty to Israel has always been openly declared as has our fulfilling of all of the duties that comes with being a good citizen."

"Within a year of my arrival in New York, I was one of the most sought-after people in Israeli information throughout the U.S. and Canada. For many audiences it was a change, and apparently a pleasant one, that a non-Jew could represent Israel and explain her positions. I was told that Jews explaining Israel to Jews was often a matter of preaching to the converted. A Druse could be even more persuasive."

"One of the new twists I included in my information programme was that of Israel as a truly democratic state and society, which had all the problems of most of the Western democracies, including that of relationships between a majority and minorities. About 70 per cent of my appearances as consul was before Jewish audiences, and I had no trouble on that score."

Prior to his appointment, Atashi was a reporter for Israel Television, to which he had come after completing his studies in the history of the Middle East and in political science, first at Haifa University and then at the Hebrew University. Following his return from an extended tour of duty as consul, he joined his mentor Toledano in being a founder of the Democratic Movement for Change.

He was elected on its Knesset list in 1977, and is presently one of the three Knesset members of Shinui, which is the only remnant of that none-too-successful experiment in new generation reform politics in Israel.

My impression is that Massarwi will not have any problems on that score, either. One problem he shares with Atashi is that of his name. I've interviewed Massarwi many times, and this is the first time that he asked me to spell it differently, apparently believing that the present spelling will be easier for American audiences to pronounce. Atashi told me that his family name, transliterated phonetically, is Atche. The trouble with that was that it often elicited responses of "gesundheit," and "God bless you," so changing it to Atashi made life simpler.

MASSARWA, the name of the large *hamula* (extended family) to which the new consul belongs, means the Egyptians. The name stems from the large number of Egyptian soldiers and peasants who came to this country in the 1820s and '30s during its short-lived conquest by the ruler of Egypt, Mohammed Ali. Massarwi noted that there are two versions of who his ancestors were: "One says that they were the soldiers in Mohammed Ali's army; the second version says that they were the poor peasant-cameleers, who served the soldiers."

What is clear is that during the early part of this century, the Massarwas, of Kafr Kari were poor *harathim*, sharecroppers who worked the land that was owned by other, richer landowning *hamulas*. The Massarwa clan is also found in large numbers in several other Wadi Ara and Little Triangle villages.

Muhammed's father was a *harath*, but eventually succeeded in buying 30 dunams "of the stoniest land you'll ever see." Villagers would laugh at them for the mountains of stone they would have to clear off and dig out from their 30 dunams of hillside, to get any crops out of them.

His father is still alive at 91, and his mother is 75. Leaving his elderly

parents to go to Atlanta will be one of the greatest difficulties Mohammed will face, although he has four other brothers and four married sisters.

Mohammed Massarwi's wife, Hitam (the name means, the end of all things, "the seal", and has a special meaning in Islam) is a graduate of Nazareth high school, "and speaks an Israeli high school English, in addition to her native Arabic, and Hebrew, of course. But I'm sure I'll learn quickly," she told me.

Neither of the Massarwis have ever been to the U.S. and are looking forward to the experience and the challenge of the new position. They have three sons, Amir "the prince", 14, Bashir, 10 and Nadir 7. They had a daughter, Abir, who was killed in a traffic accident in 1980 when she was 5.

Of the whole family, 10-year-old Bashir is the most hesitant about pulling up roots, and leaving behind his friends, his village and Israel. But then, what choice does a 10 year old have? Not much, was the impression I got when I tried to chat him up while sitting around the family's kitchen table.

ITOOK the opportunity of my interview to try to get an explanation for something about Kafr Kari that has always intrigued me — the extremely high proportion of young men and women in the village with higher education. What made Kafr Kari so special in this regard, I asked Mohammed. "It used to be that Taiba in the Triangle and Kafr Yasif in Galilee, were the 'educated villages,'" he told me. "But we've overtaken them in recent years. There are over 30 men from Kafr Kari who are physicians, and hundreds of others who have studied in university or are studying there today, including the largest contingent of Arab women students, numbering more than 50."

"The explanation may well be that specifically because the people from our village did not own much land, families placed great emphasis on the importance of education for their children as a way of getting ahead. Also, the fact that there was no high school in Kafr Kari and that we had to leave the village to study, meant that the best students were the ones who were prepared to make that effort."

"In my case, the situation was that my parents could not afford to have the oldest brothers study. Besides myself, the fourth oldest son, Ibrahim, did go to the regional high-school in Tira and then on to the university. Today he is a regional educational adviser."

His youngest brother studied mechanical engineering at the Technion but could not find a job in the field after graduation. He became a *yored*, and moved to Houston, Texas where he is a research assistant in solar energy at the local university. There he married a Jewish *yoredet* from Israel, and the couple have two children, one who is being raised as a Jew and one as a Moslem. Massarwi says that "one of the tasks I have set myself, and that my father charged me with when he gave me his blessing, is to bring back my brother and his family home to Israel."

Some time ago, the father bequeathed his 30 dunams to be distributed among the five brothers, as "the sisters are all taken care of by their husbands' families." On his and his brother Ibrahim's 12 dunams, Mohammed Massarwi has planted fruit trees, and "especially many peach trees." I told him that he was going to the right place, Atlanta, the city which has a confusion of streets, all named Peachtree. □

TAIWAN-ISRAEL COMPUTER PLANT NEGOTIATED

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Mar 87 p 9

[Article by Doron Pely]

[Text]

An Israeli high technology company, NCN Computers, Ltd., is negotiating with Copan Corp., one of Taiwan's major personal computer manufacturers, for the construction of a jointly owned production and assembly plant in Israel.

The factory, at a yet to be determined site, will produce and assemble 30,000 IBM-compatible personal computers annually, all for export to Western Europe, according to Ya'acov Merlin, NCN's general manager.

The proposed plant will employ 70 Israeli workers under the supervision of a Taiwanese staff. Copan will invest \$700,000 out of a total estimated construction cost of \$2 million.

The Taiwanese manufacturer is interested in moving a production site closer to its European target market.

/9317

CSO: 4400/180

NEW WEAPONS FOR POLICE FORCE

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by Bernard Josephs]

[Text]

A \$1 million programme to boost police firepower will be completed before the end of this year, the force's chief armourer said yesterday.

By then uniformed officers and detectives will have handed in their .38 Webley Scott revolvers and Baretta .22 automatics in exchange for the more powerful Belgian-made 9mm Browning FNs.

"This is a powerful, reliable weapon suited perfectly to our task," said Chief Superintendent Yosef Yekutieli, head of the arsenal at National Police Headquarters in Jerusalem.

For some time officers facing a rising tide of violent crime, including terror attacks, have complained that their service weapons are unreliable and underpowered.

The Webley in particular was apt to jam and there were problems involving the quality of the ammunition.

After considering the problem for 10 years and testing a wide variety of

guns, police are now convinced that the semi-automatic Browning FN, with its 13-bullet magazine, is the answer.

Said Yekutieli: "What we have been looking for is efficiency and stopping power and the new weapon will give us both. An officer wants to know that if he is forced to use his gun it will do what is needed.

"After all, we have a big job to do, not only in dealing with criminals but also, unfortunately, with terrorists. You cannot send men out to fulfill a task like this without equipping them for it."

The new gun, which costs \$188, has already been distributed to several thousand police officers, and reports are favourable. All police are to take part in extensive range practice with the weapon, which is slightly more complicated to use than the guns being phased out.

By the time it is completed, the rearming programme will have cost the force around \$1m., said Yekutieli.

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CSO: 4400/180



## UNEMPLOYMENT, INADEQUATE SERVICES CAUSE DRUZE UNREST

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Mar 87 p 2

[Article by David Rudge]

[Text]

MAS'ADA. - Rising unemployment, inadequate services and the apathy of government agencies have fanned the flames of Druse unrest on the Golan Heights, according to Histadrut officials and local Druse residents.

They maintained that grievances over these issues, and uncertainty over the future status of the region, had helped trigger the recent violence on the streets of the Druse villages.

A local resident, who asked not be named, said that of the 15,000 Druse in the region, as many as 1,500 were out of work.

The majority had been made redundant because of the slump in the building industry and had not been able to find other jobs.

Agriculture, he said, was the main source of livelihood for most Golan Heights Druse. Apart from a few workshops, a small factory producing wood-burning and a few garages, there were no alternative sources of employment.

He noted that the Delta textile firm planned to open a sewing workshop in Mas'ada, but this would provide employment for only 100 people, most of them women.

"This is not enough to solve the serious unemployment problem,"

the resident asserted.

He maintained that many of those who had lost their jobs in construction had returned to farming. But this was only a "stop-gap."

"Unfortunately, the labour exchange does not appear to be properly equipped to deal with the unemployment problem," he added.

The Druse complained that they were not being registered as jobless, making them ineligible for unemployment benefits. This also meant that they were not notified about job vacancies.

The problem had been further exacerbated by the closure, several years ago, of a branch office of the National Insurance Institute.

"We used to have an office that was open to the public one day a week. It closed shortly after the government's annexation of the region and now people have to travel to Kiryat Shmona," said the Druse resident.

He charged that the authorities had ignored other pressing problems in education and municipal services.

"Most of the classrooms are in rented buildings and the children are packed in like sardines. There is only one high school and it lacks the facilities needed for teaching the children technical subjects," he said.

"Municipal services exist, but

that's all. There is no development whatsoever."

He maintained that youngsters wishing to continue their education after high school encountered all sorts of difficulties. Most just gave up and ended up on the streets with nothing to do.

They became easy targets for the extremists and Israel-bashers who pointed to the lack of assistance from the government as a sign that the Golan Heights might one day be returned to Syria.

More government aid, said the resident, would go a long way to assuring the residents of Israel's intention to keep the region. The assistance itself would help improve education and living standards which, in turn, would make the residents more friendly towards the state.

His views are supported by Histadrut officials. Haim Grinberg, head of the trade union department of the Golan Labour Council, maintained that unemployment was a major factor behind the recent disturbances.

Aliza Tamir, a member of the Histadrut committee who recently visited the area, is also urging that special attention be given to the problems of the Golan Druse.

/9317

CSO: 4400/180

## 1986 EMPLOYMENT DATA ON ARABS FROM TERRITORIES

TA181057 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 17 Mar 87

[Communicated by the Central Bureau of Statistics]

[Text] The work force in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip averaged 269,000 persons per week during 1986 (an increase of approximately 7 percent over 1985). The size of the overall work force, from among all Judaea, Samaria and Gaza residents age 14 years and older, rose from 34.8 percent in 1985 to 36.1 percent in 1986. In Judaea and Samaria there was an increase in the number of those entering the work force, from 34.8 percent in 1985 to 33.4 percent in 1986. These figures were reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics' spokesman on the basis of data collected in family surveys regularly conducted by the bureau. In Judaea-Samaria, the percentage of males in the work force rose from 63.9 percent in 1985 to 66.7 percent in 1986; in the Gaza Strip there was almost no change.

The number of unemployed in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza actively seeking work constituted 3 percent of the work force, versus 3.6 percent in 1985. In Judaea-Samaria the figure reached 3.8 percent in 1986, versus 5 percent in 1985, while the figure for Gaza was 1.5 percent. Meanwhile, the proportion of employed residents from Judaea, Samaria and Gaza reached 261,000 in 1986, as opposed to 242,000 in 1985: 167,000 in Judaea-Samaria and 94,000 in the Gaza District (as compared with 151,000 and 91,000, respectively, in 1985).

Approximately 64 percent of those employed worked near their place of residence, while 36 percent were employed in Israel. Among Judaea and Samaria workers, 31 percent were employed in Israel, while 46 percent of Gaza workers were employed in Israel. The number of residents of these areas working in Israel averaged 95,000 per week (as compared with 89,000 in 1985); 51,000 from Judaea-Samaria and 43,000 from Gaza (as opposed to 47,000 and 42,000 respectively, in 1985). The increase in the number of those working in Israel was due primarily to the construction branch, from 42,000 in 1985 to approximately 45,000 last year.

The average daily wage earned by Judaea and Samaria residents--as derived from the Consumer Price Index in Judaea-Samaria--increased in 1986 by 12.4 percent over 1985, which had seen a 5.3 percent decline from 1984. The fixed-price wage of Judaea-Samaria residents working in Israel increased by 20

percent, after 1985 had seen a 5.3 percent decline in relation to the previous year. In Gaza, the daily wage of local residents rose by 20.6 percent in 1986 as compared with 1985, after a decline in 1985 of 12.7 percent in comparison to 1984. There was also a 32 percent increase in the daily wage of Gaza residents employed in Israel.

/9738

CSO: 4400/181

OCTOBER DEVALUATION OF SHEKEL SAID NECESSARY

TA101057 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Mar 87 p B1

[Report by Shraga Meckel]

[Excerpt] A further devaluation of the shekel will be necessary in October. This is stated in an internal document drawn up by the Finance Ministry. The devaluation will be needed to maintain the profitability of exports at the current level.

It emerges from the document that the Finance Ministry's goal is to maintain the profitability of exports at an average level of 10 to 11 percent. According to the ministry's calculations, on the eve of the devaluation in January, profitability had dropped to a mere 7 percent. The devaluation again raised profitability to 11 percent.

The profitability of exports will be determined according to changes in wages. This is the scenario foreseen in the internal document: A cost-of-living increment of about 4 percent will be paid in the upcoming paycheck for March. This increment will maintain profitability at a reasonable level of 10 percent. Price rises of about 4 percent are predicted for March and April, to be followed by a rate of inflation of less than 1 percent a month.

Therefore, another cost-of-living increment will have to be paid in October of some 5 percent. This increment will affect the profitability of exports. Therefore, another devaluation will be needed in October in order to maintain profitability at around 10 percent.

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## FIGURES ON JUDAEA, SAMARIA POPULATION

TA291355 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 Mar 87 p 7

[Article by Hayim Margalit: "Bedroom Communities"]

[Text] The laying of the foundation stone at the town of Betar B in Samaria last week, the bombastic declarations by Deputy Prime Minister and Construction and Housing Minister David Levi, the demonstrations by Sederot Mabat [furniture plant] workers together with Peace Now members and Labor Party Young Guard activists during the Bakar B ceremony, all have reminded us of what is taking place in Judaea and Samaria. There are 96 settlements there currently. The population numbers about 54,000 people, approximately 30,000 of them children. The settlers in Judaea and Samaria are propagating the Jewish people. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres recently said that the Judaea and Samaria settlements are bedroom communities [settlers only sleep there while working and focusing their activities in Israel].

There are more than 13,000 men and about 11,500 women in Judaea and Samaria. There is a surplus of men over women because several settlements serve as yeshivas. In 21 out of the 96 settlements the population numbers about 250 people. Large settlements number 29, with over 500 people in each. In 11 of the 29 the population exceeds 1,000. In Ma'ale Adummim which is, in fact, a suburb of Jerusalem, the population numbers nearly 13,000 people. In Qiryat Arba', the second largest settlement, the population numbers under 5,000 people. In those two settlements, as well, the children constitute about 55 percent of the entire population.

Meron Benvenisti, the director of the West Bank and Gaza Strip Data Base Project, says that most of the population, about 28,000 people, is concentrated in the Jerusalem metropolitan area. This area is restricted, according to him, to a travel distance of 20 minutes from the Jerusalem city limits, and includes in fact the suburbs. Most of the breadwinners work in Jerusalem itself. Near the Tel Aviv metropolitan area, 40 minutes from Jerusalem, there are about 20,000 people in settlements. Most of the settlements are located in the Tulkarm District, 10 minutes or less from Kefar Sava. Here also the decisive majority of the breadwinners work in the Dan District. It is only in these two areas that the population has grown. In 1985-1986 their population grew by more than 10 percent, and it is no wonder. Credit

terms for purchasing apartments beyond the "Green Line" are much cheaper than within the "Green Line" boundaries. In contrast with this increase, all other settlements, especially Gush Emunim settlements, which are located on the mountain ridge in northern and southern Samaria, have decreased in size. The Gush Emunim leaders, who use pompous language, conceal what is happening at home and point to the overall increase. There is no point arguing with the Gush Emunim leaders. They, as is well known, have become the exponents of God's desires. A severe crisis is now plaguing the Jordan Valley settlements where the population has decreased. According to Benvenisti, the total number of families in Judaea and Samaria is 12,000. Meron Benvenisti believes that the situation in Judaea and Samaria is irreversible, and that what happened in the Yamit District and in the Rafah Approaches will not be repeated.

/6091

CSO: 4400/185



## NEW TV CHANNEL     MARKETING SUCCESS

Jerusalem THE ISRAEL ECONOMIST in English No 43, Jan-Feb 87 p 16

[Article by Dr Seymour Gottlieb]

[Text]

**I**n 1987, Israel will finally become a marketing power and reap the economic rewards of both cable TV and a second TV channel, both of which will broadcast advertising nationwide.

Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein introduced second-channel legislation in mid-1985. Co-sponsored by Labor and Likud and modeled on Great Britain's Independent Broadcast Authority, this intricate, 73-page bill calls for creating a TV channel with advertising. It also divides the country into 20 cable-TV regions and allocates new radio frequencies.

Five second-channel franchisees — chosen through closed government bidding — will each program a weekday, offering up to 24 hours of continuous television; weekend programming will rotate weekly among them. No production company may transfer its broadcasting rights to another firm. Additionally, one-third of all second-channel programs must be produced and staged in Israel. The remaining two-thirds may be foreign syndications, as the Israel Broadcasting Authority (IBA) channel purchases.

Advertising will be restricted to 10% of broadcast time, meaning that a 60-minute show can only include six minutes of commercials. All these regulations are subject to changes until the Knesset passes the legislation.

A 15-member executive committee will address questions left unanswered by the second-channel bill. This committee will primarily ensure that second-channel programs are "politically, religiously, and ethnically inoffensive," says Communications Ministry spokesman Avi Chefetz. Secondly, it will screen advertising and audit revenue flow. Headed by the second channel's director-general, the committee will comprise one representative each from the eight government ministries and seven public members. A committee to oversee the 20 cable franchises will also be established with similar guidelines.

The second-channel bill has advanced relatively fast. By September 1986, it was approved by a 9-1 inner-cabinet vote and by December 1986 it had passed its first Knesset reading and was sent into committee. Its passage now requires only second and third Knesset readings.

**The need**

Several powerful economic and political problems point to a second channel. The government is very concerned by the estimated 250,000 VCRs and illegal satellite receivers in Israeli households. Money spent on these machines and video-tape rentals flows out of the country, stresses Avraham Poraz, Rubinstein's special advisor. The Communications Ministry also worries about unemployment within Israel's production studios.

Another problem is competition from illegal, untaxable cable systems. A Hollywood trade paper, *Variety*, estimates that some 1,000 illegal cable companies in Israel rake in over \$100,000 monthly and have led to Mafia-style rivalries and violence. In Jerusalem's Gilo suburb, for instance, one group demanded payment from homeowners for cables installed on their roofs without their permission. Outraged residents cut the cables and the extortionists were arrested.

Moreover, Israeli television faces stiff competition from Lebanon's Christian TV channel and Jordanian TV, which broadcast -- among other things -- anti-Israel propaganda.

Ironically, IBA programming has perhaps created the greatest need for a second channel. A Communications Ministry survey, conducted by Smith Research, showed that 66% of Israeli viewers dislike Israeli shows and want a second channel. Even with its \$53-million budget -- coming partly from TV-tax receipts and "sponsorship" advertising -- IBA broadcasts only four hours daily and is plagued by infuriating blackouts due to labor unrest. Leading TV director Adin Zik hopes that second-channel competition will finally spur unmotivated IBA personnel to upgrade program quality.

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CSO: 4400/180

## BRIEFS

CANADA BARS MILITARY ATTACHE YARON--The Canadian government announced yesterday that it would not accept Aluf Amos Yaron as a military attache in Ottawa, apparently because of Yaron's involvement in the Sabra and Shatilla massacre following the 1982 Lebanon war. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday that Canada would not look favourably on the appointment, but he declined to give a reason for this attitude. Yaron, who is currently a military attache at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, was commander of the IDF forces in Beirut at the time of the massacre. He was subsequently reprimanded by the Kahan Commission for not preventing the Phalangists from slaughtering the Palestinians of Sabra and Shatilla. Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark was quoted yesterday as acknowledging that the rejection of a nominated military attache was unusual. In Israel, both the Defence Ministry and the Army yesterday declined comment on Canada's refusal to accept Yaron's credentials. [Text][Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Mar 87 p 1]/12828

ISRAELI-DANISH COOPERATION--Israel and Denmark have signed an agreement in Copenhagen on cooperation in the field of culture. The new agreement, which will remain valid until 1990, includes cultural exchanges, joint study programs on both countries in high schools, grants, exchanges of research workers, artistic exhibitions, and youth and student exchanges. [Excerpt] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 22 Mar 87 p 2 TA] /9738

SUMMER TIME APPROVED STARTING 11 APR--There will be summer time in Israel from 11 April to 12 September. This was decided by the Cabinet with a majority of votes, in a decision compromising between the proposal by the minister of energy, Moshe Shahal, and that by the Interior Ministry. It will be summer time from 11 April to 12 September. [Text] [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1045 GMT 22 Mar 87 TA] /6091

ECONOMIC STATISTICS--According to economic data just received, in March Israel's foreign currency reserves increased by \$52 million and totaled nearly \$4.3 billion, a peak we have not seen for many years. In March the government streamed about 350 million Israeli shekels into the economy, but throughout the budgetary year the government absorbed more than 1.1 billion Israeli shekels. [Text] [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Apr 87 TA] /6091

CSO: 4400/185

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES SECURITY MATTERS

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 28 Feb 87 p 22

[Interview with Minister of Interior Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, by Husayn Salamah in Kuwait: "Relaxation of Security Will Be Achieved by Halting the Gulf War"; date not specified]

[Text] The Kuwaiti interior minister, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, is known to be a man of action but of few words. He is the one principally responsible for Kuwait's security, and everyone knows that Kuwait's security is threatened these days by the actions of some terrorist groups from outside of Kuwait, and by the actions of some misguided natives of this fair land. Therefore the interview with Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad in precisely this context is significant and has many important considerations, the first being that he was speaking under trying and unusual circumstances with regard to the Gulf region and its security. The second is that he was speaking after the conclusion of the security strategy by the Gulf Cooperation Council states; knowing that Kuwait had been the only one of these states which had blocked concluding a security before because it had conflicted with some Kuwaiti laws. Therefore the security strategy, as AL-TADAMUN has learned, came as an excellent substitute, as Shaykh Nawwaf put it in this exclusive interview with AL-TADAMUN.

Kuwaiti security concerns Shaykh Nawwaf, but he refuses to testify to the extent to which the security organizations would be able to achieve stability, and he said in this respect: "I hope that this question would be directed towards the citizens as well as the foreign residents, because they are the ones who can control the security situation."

[Question] At the start of the interview, we asked Shaykh Nawwaf about the events that Kuwait had seen during the preparatory meetings to the Islamic summit last 19 January, and which resulted in fires being set at three oil installations. He said:

[Answer] Regardless of the vigilance of the police, Kuwait is protected by the goodness of its people, the sincerity of its goals, and the wisdom of its officials, headed by the amir of the country Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and his crown prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah. Kuwait was lucky, for the misguided ones failed in their actions. God was with us, for their plans backfired against them, and the saying which says, "He who digs a pit for his brother will fall into it," was true for them. Just as their intentions

towards Kuwait were bad, so was this fair land protected by the power of God Almighty, who caused their bad intentions, which please neither God nor His creatures, to backfire against them, and who aided the police in capturing them.

[Question] Do you believe that you have discovered all of them, or are there others?

[Answer] It might be that those whom we have arrested--twelve so far--are part of a misguided group, and we are doing our utmost to follow the lines of this entire gang that is harmful to Kuwait, its people, and those residing in it. We cannot say now that we have finished, because we expect that there will be other groups, but whatever the case, we will continue to pursue them to protect Kuwait's security and stability and the safety of its people. I will say here that there are still four fugitives who are wanted for justice, but I am confident--and I would like to reassure everybody--that we will definitely discover them, thanks to the vigilance of our men and their hard work. I am not forgetting here the efforts of the citizens, who have cooperated fully with the security organizations, and still do. These joint efforts inevitably bear fruit, and we have turned over the twelve suspects to the state security court, and they will be rewarded according to the provisions and rules of Kuwait law.

[Question] How big a role do you think the Iraq-Iran war has played in the security events which Kuwait has experienced? And will an end to this war relieve you of the operations of sabotage that the country is experiencing?

[Answer] There is no doubt that an end to the Iraq-Iran war would be important to rescuing the future of the entire Arab Gulf region. With regard to Kuwait, it would greatly relax the security situation, because what is happening to us are nothing but major spin-offs from this war. Our hope, God willing, is that the war between the two Muslim neighbors will end, and we hope that the praise-worthy efforts that will be made to stop it will be crowned with success.

[Question] How might you describe the security situation in Kuwait?

[Answer] I am not the one who should be asked that question, for it is the citizen who can control this situation. Therefore, I would have liked this question to have been directed to the citizens, for it is the citizen who is the basic factor in helping his sons and his brethren the police, by standing beside them and backing them up in their efforts. The same goes for the foreign resident as well, because everyone wants to live in this fair land in safety. I would not be telling any secrets if I were to say that cooperation between the citizens and the security people was important and a good thing, for everyone stood together as one. This stance was clear when the Fifth Islamic Summit was held on Kuwaiti soil, when all citizens and residents treated this conference as if it were theirs, and nobody complained about the security measures that were taken at that time. A spirit of gallantry was evident among the security personnel in the Interior Ministry, as well as their brethren in the Defense Ministry and the National Guard. This spirit combined with the support that the citizens had shown for them, and thus these agencies worked hand in glove with all state agencies. This complete coordination seen by the conference is



what helped to make it a success, because we all wanted to implement the directives of our amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad to help him make this difficult task a success. To him goes most of the credit for holding the fifth Islamic Summit, for it would not have been held but for His Highness' determination that it meet at the place and time that had been set for it, in spite of the circumstances that the region, and especially Kuwait, were going through. That is attributable to the wise leadership of His Highness the amir and of his crown prince, and that is altogether the basic reason that the summit was successful.

[Question] To what extent are the security agencies ready to confront advanced terrorist methods?

[Answer] The Interior Ministry works unceasingly to develop its apparatuses and elements, and it is constantly sending out groups of students for training abroad to learn about the latest security methods and means followed in the advanced countries. It constantly strives to develop the faculties and capabilities of its responsible human elements, so we send these elements to training courses where they become acquainted with what is new in the world of combatting crime and terrorism, for terrorism does not have a fixed identity.

[Question] Yesterday (Sunday, 15 January) you took part in a meeting of the interior ministers of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council. In this extraordinary meeting the security strategy of these states was concluded. Might we know what could be said about this strategy?

[Answer] This meeting was an opportunity for us all in the Cooperation Council states to exchange views and to learn about the security circumstances experienced by each state, and each of the fellow interior ministers presented an explanation of the security situation peculiar to his country. Each of us also explained the security experience of his country. In the end, there was a single point of agreement, which was that the danger to security threatened everybody and not just Kuwait, since it threatens the entire region. A corresponding fact was that we must be alert and on guard, for if the entire region is targeted and its security threatened, then Kuwait as a part of this region is also threatened. The security strategy is reflected in the entire region in a way that will be good for the citizens and the society. This strategy is an excellent step, and as such it was unanimously agreed upon by the interior ministers. The security which this agreement is intended to achieve is political security. This security strategy will be presented to the ministerial council of the Gulf Cooperation Council as a first step towards presenting it to the supreme council, the "Cooperation Council summit," for it to be concluded and sent on its way to implementation after the necessary rules for that are laid down. Therefore, application of this strategy will take some time.

12547/12859

CSO: 4404/269



## CENTRAL BANK TRIES TO STIMULATE FINANCIAL SECTOR

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 18 Mar 87 p 11

[Article by M.C. Bose]

[Text]

BUSINESS and financial circles in Kuwait expressed confidence and optimism over the Central Bank of Kuwait's latest move to cut the official interest rate by one percentage point to 7.5 percent. The new measure reflects the Central Bank's firm determination to further stimulate the economy and the recovery process.

**Activity**

The governor of Kuwait's Central Bank Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah has said Kuwaiti Commercial Law requires that there should be a ceiling on lending rates in Kuwaiti Dinar. Since 1977 the interest ceiling for the economy has been at 10 percent as set by the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Central Bank. Below that two other ceilings were set at 8.5 percent for unsecured or productive loans for one year or less and 7 percent for secured loans to productive economic activities for one year or less.

Sheikh Salem told the Arab Times in an exclusive interview that the new measures on interest rates were intended to reflect, and deal

with several factors such as the general decline of foreign and KD interest rates, the decline of economic activity, the depreciation in the value of domestic assets. The new measures also reflect a desire by the Central Bank to allow some flexibility in the interest rate structure and to improve the prospects for implementation of new tools of monetary policy, both through more active intervention on the interbank market and possible open market operations in the future.

The new structure can be summarized as follows: The legal ceiling for KD lending of no more than one year will be 7.5 percent. This ceiling covers all financial instruments of maturity not exceeding one year, but excludes Kuwait interbank operations.

For lending above one year the maximum interest rate will not exceed one percentage point (1 percent) above the prevailing Kuwait Interbank Offered Rate (KIBOR). The Kuwait's Central Bank daily announces the KIBOR rate.

The interest rate on all KD debt instruments of maturity exceeding one year shall not exceed two percentage points (2 percent) above the Kuwait Interbank Offered Rate (KIBOR).

Moreover, Sheikh Salem said that the Central Bank has limited interest rates on loans not exceeding one year for productive activity to 6 percent, and the Bank has also set a minimum rate of 4.5 percent on savings deposits. The above interest rate limitations do not cover loans to non-residents and those in foreign currency.

Asked the flexible interest rate structure will any way trigger inflationary forces, Sheikh Salem said inflation in Kuwait is caused by both external and domestic factors. The external factors can be alleviated by exchange rate policy. The new interest rate structure is one method of reducing the costs of domestic business activity, and we expect that reducing the lending rate ceiling and the effective cost of financing to productive activity will have some deflationary impact on prices.

As an immediate follow up action the Central Bank on March 8 cuts its money market intervention rates by a half percentage point. Asked will there be any slightest possibility that these new measures would encourage capital outflow, Sheikh Salem said in view of recent domestic and international developments the possibility of noticeable capital outflow is remote. The major domestic and external financial variables indicate that interest rate differentials between KD and the dollar are very narrow, and that migrating capital will have to bear foreign exchange credit, and political risks.

New adjustments would reduce insolvency of some debtors? Sheikh Salem said the new interest rate structure is in line with market conditions. Through its impact on asset values, we expect it to

reduce the occurrence of insolvencies in the future.

#### **Investment**

Sheikh Salem said that the new interest rate structure should increase both investment and consumption expenditures, because it reduces the rates on all kinds of borrowing. It is likely that the lowered structure will make returns on direct investment more attractive than deposits and therefore direct savings toward varied forms of investment, and therefore to increase the sophistication of the Kuwaiti market.

The new structure has lowered the ceiling on KD loans for productive economic activity (which includes trade) to 6 percent for up to one year. The aim is to encourage these productive activities whose financing needs usually do not exceed one year, Sheikh Salem added.

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CSO: 4400/182

## BRIEFS

INVESTMENT IN WEST GERMANY--The Kuwaiti oil minister, Shaykh 'Ali Khalifah Al Sabah, affirmed in an interview with Germany's Channel 1 that Kuwait owns about 25 percent of the shares of the German company Hoechst, Germany's largest petrochemical firm, and that it (Kuwait) intends to maintain this level of investment in the German establishment. The minister denied that Kuwait was about to liquidate or reduce its German investments. The Kuwaiti minister expected that by the end of this year oil prices would reach, on the average, the level that OPEC is asking for at the present time (about \$18 a barrel), and he mentioned that the OPEC agreement is encountering some stumbling blocks at the present time, but that it would overcome them by the end of summer. On the lack of British cooperation with the OPEC nations in maintaining price levels, he said: "Britain is very happy about prices reaching \$18, but it is never accommodating towards the OPEC nations. But we know that British oil production in the North Sea is declining, and that Britain will not be able to meet its consumption needs within 3 or 4 years." He added that Norway, which has cooperated with OPEC with respect to production, is a more important petroleum state than Britain, in the long run. [Text] [London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 7 Mar 87 p 34] 12547/12859

CSO: 4404/269

## RECENT ARRESTS, SCANDALS IN AL-RAQQAH PROVINCE DISCUSSED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Mar 87 p 5

[Article: "Syria: Between the Lieutenant General, the Major, and the Governor"]

[Text] Arrests, settling accounts among some of the ruling party leaders, bribery and corruption. This in short is what is actually going on inside the Syrian province of al-Raqqah. Regarding the matter of the arrests, the military security authorities have made a new wave of arrests of youths in the province of al-Raqqah, on the charge of forming a secret cell whose purpose was to get rid of the symbols of local corruption. AL-DUSTUR obtained the names of some of those imprisoned:

1. Thamir al-'Iyadah al-Huwaydi (a teacher from the village of al-Mashlab);
2. Faysal al-Huwaydi (a soldier from the village of al-Mashlab);
3. Ahmad al-Shanan al-Balikh al-Qaru (a student from the village of al-Mu'ayzilah Burayj);
4. Isma'il al-Mustafa (a university student from the village of al-Tubal);
5. Darwish al-Kashah (a full-time teacher in the Vanguard Branch from the village of Khunayz);
6. Muhammad al-Fahd al-Karrah (a teacher from the village of al-Karnah--Badu).

As for the symbols of local corruption, the military security authorities confiscated five large carloads of cast iron in its way to al-Salamiyah from al-Raqqah province. After investigating the owners of the cars and their drivers, it became clear that their cargo would be unloaded at the home of Lt Col 'Ali al-Darbuli, head of political security in al-Raqqah. It is known that cast iron fetches an incredibly high price in the black market because of the absence of supervision and the spread of bribery in Syria overall, not just in al-Raqqah.

The result of this confiscation was an aggravation of the situation between Major 'Aziz, head of the military security troops in al-Raqqah, and Lt Col al-Darbuli, head of political security. The governor, Muhammad Salman, tried in vain to solve the dispute. The argument was settled after Brig Gen 'Abbud Qadah, head of the military security branch, telephoned Major 'Aziz at the request of Governor Muhammad Salman.

The question which al-Raqqah is asking now is the following: What did Muhammad Salman receive in exchange for his intervention? What did 'Abbud Qadah receive in exchange for his telephone call? And how valid is the rumor which circulated after this scandal regarding an operation to transfer Al-Darbuli to another province?

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CSO: 4404/289

## BRIEFS

RIF'AT AL-ASAD USES INFLUENCE TO FREE PRISONERS--Rif'at al-Asad's presence in Paris for some months does not mean that he is far from what is going on inside Syria, or that his influence has dwindled. The latest proof of the extent of the influence which the Syrian president's brother still enjoys is a recent operation to release 10 prisoners in the city of al-Raqqah who belong to the "League of Higher Studies Alumni" which Rif'at al-Asad heads. The arrest of this group was made approximately 1 year ago. Among them was Muhammad al-'Ummash, member of the Branch Command of the ruling party in al-Raqqah, who was arrested for "forming blocs inside the party." This was because of his differences with the governor of al-Raqqah, Muhammad Salman al-Mahsub, over 'Ali Duba. The operation to release only this group and no others, and this in spite of the pressure which the governor of al-Raqqah applied to keep its members in prison, confirms that Rif'at's shares are on the rise again. [Text] [London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Mar 87 p 3] /6091

CSO: 4404/289



## PAPER PROFILES JAPANESE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE MUJAHIDIN

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English Supplement 6 Mar 87 p 3

[Text]

His name is heard in the bazaars of the north-west frontier. Among the fierce tribesmen of Afghanistan, who have been waging a bitter seven year war of attrition against Russian invaders, his fighting prowess has become legend. He is Koshiro Tanaka, a 47-year-old former karate instructor from Tokyo, who has declared his own personal Jihad against communism.

"I wish we had more Mujahideen like him" said Jan Agha a senior rebel commander in the Jagdalak Valley, a Mujahideen (holy warrior) stronghold 35 miles east of the Afghan capital Kabul. "He is one of the best fighters we have."

I first heard of Tanaka in a carpet market in Peshawar. His was a name I was to hear many times again as I searched for a rebel group which would escort me into Afghanistan.

By all accounts he was a disciplined, self-contained man. A man of few words who donned a track suit and the head scarf of a samurai before he went into battle. When I met the strange, enigmatic 'ferringi' (foreigner) he was all I had imagined the very embodiment of the Samurai warrior of lore.

"All I want to do is fight, fight every day. We must stop the spread of communism otherwise the Russians will continue to invade weaker countries like Afghanistan" he said in slow but clearly enunciated English.

I am most impressed by the Mujahideen's courage. They never asked for this war. They are

fighting for their freedom and liberation.

Tanaka first arrived in Jagdalak in 1984, he had convinced leaders of the Jamiat-I-Islami that he wished to join the 500 Mujahideen who are based in the Valley.

Twice married and with five children, he found the scepticism and opposition of his family harder to overcome.

My family and my friends don't like me being out here. They tried to stop me coming to Afghanistan but nothing they could do or say made any difference" he said.

Tanaka has undertaken six tours of duty in the Jagdalak Valley, which has been depopulated by savage Soviet aerial bombardment.

When not raiding Russian outposts which guard the electricity lines to Kabul or ambushing convoys on the strategic Kabul to Jallalabad highway, he often wanders off alone to scout Jagdalak's terrain, a lunar-like landscape of arid, forbidden hills, river beds and narrow rocky trails.

He exudes an aura of invincibility and Jagdalak's Mujahideen as superstitious as the rest of their countrymen are happy to have him as their talisman. Through him their fame spreads and such vainglory is an essential part of Afghan life.

"Next year I am 47 so I will not be able to move so fast", he said I can only give the Mujahideen about one or two years more. The problem is not only an Afghan problem it is one for all the free world."

It is sentiments and actions like these that have helped make Koshiro Tanaka something of a legend. Or at least as one fellow guerrilla put it. "A one-man army."

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CSO: 4600/180

INEXPERIENCED RUSSIANS REPORTEDLY RUN KABUL HOSPITALS

Peshawar AFGHAN REALITIES in English No 74 1 Feb 87 pp 5-9

[Interview with Dr. Amir Mohammad Behnawa]

[Text] Peshawar--A doctor of the Avicenna Hospital (Kabul), who has recently sought refuge in Pakistan, says that all hospitals in Kabul are run by inexperienced Russian doctors and advisers. In fact, he said, these inexperienced doctors are sent to Afghanistan for espionage (and not treatment) in hospitals.

"Due to lack of medicine, medical personnel and requisite hygienic conditions, a patient cannot receive proper treatment in Kabul hospitals," he said in an interview in Peshawar.

Dr. Amir Mohammad Behnawa was chief of the chest clinic in the Avicenna Hospital in Kabul when he left the job and sought refuge in Pakistan.

Following is the transcript of the interview with Dr. Behnawa:

Q: Do Russian doctors and advisers serve in Kabul hospitals?

A: Yes. There are several Russian advisers and doctors in Kabul hospitals. However, most of these doctors do not enjoy any experience in their field. In fact, they are sent to Afghanistan for espionage (and not treatment) in hospitals. Moreover, most of these doctors treat cases which are contrary to their field and profession. For example, a laboratory assistant, known as Robert, served as heart specialist in our hospital. There were others who were doctors of insentience, however, they also conducted operations in the surgical ward of our hospital. The responsables of the hospital were aware of the problems, but they were not able to solve them. In this way, the practice of these doctors have deprived many patients of their lives.

Q: How is the treatment of patients in Kabul hospitals?

A: A patient needs physical and mental rest which is not possible in Kabul hospitals. Due to lack of medicine, medical personnel and requisite hygienic conditions, a patient cannot receive proper treatment in Kabul hospitals.

The hospitals only give cheap medicine to their patients. The patients are forced to buy expensive drugs from the bazaar. They buy even alcohol, tincture, gas, plaster, etc. from the bazaar.

Besides lack of medical personnel in hospitals, there are other problems which affect the treatment of patients in Kabul hospitals. For example, the doctors of these hospitals are engaged in non-medical activities, such as voluntary work, political studies, meetings and marches. A doctor is forced to see Russian propaganda films at least once a week. In addition, the doctors also attend the compulsory Russian studies, which are taught for three days in a week.

A patient will receive a proper treatment if he enjoys hygienic conditions in a hospital. However, the conditions of Kabul hospitals are not fit for an effective treatment. There are lice, flies, mice and bugs in Kabul hospitals. A healthy food system does not exist in these hospitals. Most of the patients cannot receive meat in the hospitals. Moreover, the hospitals lack modern medical equipment and appliances.

Q: Are cases of heart surgery and other chest diseases conducted in your hospital?

A: As you know that such cases were effectively conducted in our hospital in the past. However, I must say that a great difference has occurred between the past and the present of Kabul hospitals. For example, operation of liver, lungs, etc. was a simple matter in our hospital. At present, such operations are not possible, because there exists lack of medical equipment in our hospital. Prior to the communist coup in 1978, we had purchased a machine for open heart operations. The machine was sent to the central stock. We had purchased the machine for 55,000 dollars.

Q: Do you know about the percentage of these experienced doctors inside Afghanistan?

A: It is difficult to know about the percentages of the experienced doctors in Kabul hospitals. However, I must remind you that 46 doctors (along with me) graduated from Kabul Medical College in 1962-63. Out of those doctors, only eight serve in Kabul hospitals. According to this number, the percentage of the experienced doctors in the country is less than twenty. The number of doctors reached 2,000 throughout the country in 1962-63, but it reduced to 380 in 1982-83.

Q: Where are the Russians treated?

A: The Russians are treated in the former hospital of the Central Command in Shahrara (Kabul). The hospital only treats the Russians. It is also run by Russian personnel.

I must add that critical patients are important Russians are sent to the Soviet Union for effective treatment.

Q: Where are the members of the communist party treated?

A: They are treated according to their category in Kabul hospitals. Members of the politburo and the central committee are treated in the 400-Bed Hospital, while ordinary communists receive their treatment in civil hospitals. The KHAD (secret police) and the police have set up their own hospitals for their patients.

Moreover, party members and high ranking officials can easily go to foreign countries for treatment. They are sent to India, the Soviet Union and other countries of the Eastern bloc. I must say that treatment in foreign countries is quite difficult for ordinary people.

Q: Did differences exist between the Khalqis and Parchamis in your hospital?

A: Certainly. I interpret the word "differences" as rivalries, because each faction opposes others to seek the confidence of Russians. As the real power lies in the hands of the Russians, each faction tries to show itself as the most loyal faction to the Russians. Thus, the rivalries create and deepen differences.

It should be mentioned that the differences not only exist between the Khalqis and Parchamis but also continue between the supporters of Babrak Karmal and Najib.

Q: What do you say about the educational standard of Kabul Medical College?

A: No education exists in the college. In fact, students are engaged in other activities, such as marches, voluntary works, meetings, searches, fighting, etc. Those who take part in battlefield are automatically promoted to a higher class. As a result, they are graduated from the college and appointed as doctors in hospitals without any ability. Therefore, such doctors cannot render any service to the society. The appointment of such doctors causes problems in hospitals and brings death to the patients instead of treatment.

Q: Does the ministry of public health send its medical teams to the provinces?

A: The ministry cannot send such teams nowadays to the provinces, because the regime does not enjoy its control on many regions in the country. It cannot even control some cities during the night.

When I started my profession in 1963, malaria had been nearly eradicated in Afghanistan. In particular, there were no signs of the disease in Kabul at that time. However, the disease is growing day by day in the city due to absence of preventive measures by the ministry.

The World Health Organisation conducts only vaccination of some diseases in the hospitals of the city. The ministry has also done nothing in this respect.

Q: Which diseases were common among the people during the past year? Did you also treat the war wounded?

A: We observed diseases which are caused by lack of vitamins and appropriate nutrition. In addition, we observed tuberculosis, malaria, heart diseases and mental depression.

The war wounded of the army, police and the KHAD (secret police) are treated in their respective hospitals. On the other hand, we treated patients who were wounded in Russian air bombardments and ground operations. Most of those patients were children, women and old men.

Q: Has the number of patients exceeded the capacity of Kabul hospitals anytime?

A: Yes. The number of patients usually exceeds the capacity of hospitals. Sometimes, the patients are treated on the floors of the hospitals. In order to vacate a place for new patients, many patients are discharged from the hospitals in unsatisfactory state.

Q: What shortages does the hospitals face in Kabul?

A: Kabul hospitals do not have enough equipment and medicine. These hospitals also face of medical personnel.

Q: Let's put medical affairs aside. What do you think about the political, economic and social situation in Kabul? In addition, what the residents of Kabul think about the Jihad and the Mujahideen in Afghanistan?

A: About the economic problems, I would like to begin the answer with my own problems. I was a first grade officer with a monthly salary of Afs. 6,000 (about US\$ 50). Likewise, the salary of an employee is around US\$ 12. While the prices of consumer goods have risen three or four times, no increase occurs in the salaries of government employees. Therefore, the people are facing great economic problems in the city. One kilogram of meat is sold for about 1.50 dollars. Similarly, the prices of foodstuff have risen three or four times.

One of our honest officers, who has obtained his doctorate in Education, lives in Khair Khana Mena, Kabul. I do not want to mention him by name for the sake of his security. Due to shortage of power and high prices of firewood, charcoal, oil and diesel, he used a lantern in winter to keep his children warm. There are thousands of such people in Kabul who lead a very miserable life there.

On the other hand, the population of Kabul has greatly increased during the past years. Diseases have increased, and the social conditions of the people are critical.

Though the regime builds houses in Kabul, it allots them to party members. Also, plots are allotted to families who have lost one of their members in the fighting against the Mujahideen. However, the rest live in rented old houses along with several other families.

These factors are intensifying the indignation and hatred of the people for the Russians and their puppet regime in Kabul.

Eighty per cent people of Afghanistan wait for tomorrow. They hope that the day will come when the Mujahideen topple the communist regime and take power in Afghanistan.

About the position of the Mujahideon, I would like to say that they have occupied the depths of the hearts of the people.

The people of Afghanistan love the Mujahideen.

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CSO: 4600/187



SAYAF: 'WE WILL NEVER FORM A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE'

Peshawar AFGHAN REALITIES in English No 74 1 Feb 87 pp 1-2

[Interview with Prof. Sayaf]

[Text] Islamabad--Prof. Sayaf, the new spokesman of the Islamic Unity of Afghanistan Mujahideen (the coalition of seven Mujahideed organisation), says that the Mujahideed will never form a government in exile. He says that the Mujahideen will establish a government only inside Afghanistan.

"All Mujahideen leaders intend to further their efforts for the consolidation of the Unity," he said in a recent interview with our correspondent in Islamabad.

Prof. Sayaf was interviewed by our correspondent prior to his departure for Kuwait to attend the Fifth Islamic Summit in that country at the head of a high ranking delegation of the Islamic Unity of Afghanistan Mujahideen.

Following is the transcript of the interview with Prof. Sayaf:

Q: What is the purpose of your visit to Kuwait and who is accompanying you on this trip?

A: The delegation will shed light on the situation in Afghanistan in the summit. We will inform our Muslim brothers of our problems and will indicate our stand on the current political moves. Besides, we will demand the seat of Afghanistan.

The delegation is composed of 14 members. Each leader of the seven organisations is accompanied by his assistant in the trip.

Q: Do you have any programme for the development of the Unity during tenure?

A: All leaders of the Mujahideen organisations intend to further their efforts for the consolidation of the Unity. We have chalked out a joint programme of action for the future. The Unity has set up a commission aimed at considering on the structure of the interim government and the procedure of its (the interim government) authority and work. The commission will submit its decision to the Supreme Council of the Unity for approval. We have also set up a joint judicial commission to solve differences between Mujahideen groups.

Q: According to the declaration of the Unity, the interim government of the Mujahideen will begin its work inside Afghanistan upon the withdrawal of the Russians from the country. If the Russians do not withdraw from Afghanistan, will the Mujahideen establish a government in exile?

A: We will never form a government in exile. The Mujahideen control greater part of the Afghan territory, and they will establish a government only inside Afghanistan.

Q: What do you think about the Geneva Talks?

A: Though we are a party in the war, we do not take part in the talks as a party. For this reason, we are not bound by the decisions of the talks. We do not accept any decision when is contrary to the wishes of our Mujahideen.

Q: Will you accept an invitation of your participation in the talks? Besides, are you prepared for direct talks with the Russians?

A: In this respect, I will consult other resistance leaders and clarify a joint Mujahideen stand.

Q: If the Russians insist on the presence of some Khalqi and Parchami members in a non-communist government before their troops withdrawal, would you accept such a coalition?

A: We will not form any coalition with the communists in any case. A coalition between Islam and athiesm is not possible. We want to form an Islamic system in Afghanistan. Such system cannot be established by non-Muslims. Only true Muslims can fulfil the task.

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CSO: 4600/187

## PLASTIC SURGEON HELPING VICTIMS OF CHEMICAL WARFARE

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English Supplement 3 Mar 87 pp A, B

[Text]

**PESHAWAR:** A Young Afghan lost his cheeks, upper lip and part of nose in the bombing of recent Afghanistan war. He looks like a ghost rather than human being. Wherever he goes children even the grown ups are frightened from his face look. He goes from clinic to clinic for medical consultation but doctors turn their faces asking him to leave the room.

A Twenty four year old young Afghan lady develops a "Horse's Tail" growing down from her chin.

Dozens of women, childrens, girls and men with complicated face injuries were found frustrated from their lives as there was little effort on the part of doctors to repair their faces.

The expertise of a pakistani surgeon surprised world's top experts when he became a ray of hope for these patients.

"I was revolted at the number of Afghan who were turned away at the big hospitals when they came with complicated face injuries," said Dr. Javeed Iqbal.

Little does the man-in-the-street know about a University Hospital which paid a tribute to a plastic surgeon in Pakistan. Who did what to whom for what? His ignorance is quite justified as this tribute was not made public. However here is an attempt to make the facts available. In fact myself became aware of these facts only recently. Recently, experts in plastic surgery at one of Europe's top-most University Hospitals paid an uncommonly eulogistic tribute to

the craftsmanship of a Pakistani plastic surgeon who became famous in Sweden, yet remains virtually unknown in his own country and city. The surgeon is Dr. Javed Iqbal and he is an Assistant Professor of surgery at Khyber Medical College, Peshawar.

The question arises what is plastic surgery? Most people do not know anything about it, or believe that it deals with insertion of plastic materials in human body. Some others think the plastic surgeons only perform face lifting for actresses or rich people. Actually plastic surgery is a unique art in which the plastic surgeon is the artist, his canvas the human face, his paint the blood, and his brush the knife.

Look, for example, at the face of this young lady who hid her face even from her friends and relatives, and regularly trimmed "a Horse's Tail" growing down from her chin. Her travail was ended after successful plastic surgical operations in 3 stages in which neatly half of her face was altogether changed, not lifted which is much easier procedure. (picture 1).

Again, have a look at this Afghan who was hit by a rocket in the Afghan war. He lost both his cheeks, upper lip and part of the nose. According to our plastic surgeon he looked like a ghost rather than a human being and would have scared many a brave men had he met them in the dark. He needed 7 (seven) plastic surgical procedures stretched

over three and a half months before he got back his original face as shown in the final post-operative picture. (picture 2).

Yet again at this eleven year old girl from parachinar (picture 3) and you would be struck with awe. A few little friends from neighbouring houses came to play with her one day. After a while they started to fiddle around with their gun. Suddenly the gun went off and blow off the lower jaw, the floor of the mouth and the lower lip of this pretty girl.

"Her tongue was virtually sitting on her chest. She was a hopeless case as there was no tissue to work with", says Dr. Javed Iqbal. But he picked up this challenge, and after four operations, made her smile once again.

These and a few other similar pictures were seen by Maria Soederberg, the correspondent of a famous Swedish newspaper FIB. Although herself struck with the beauty of the work, she left it to the pundits of Europe, the professor of plastic surgery at Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden's biggest and most prestigious University Hospital, and to the Swedish Plastic Surgery Information Service, for critical evaluation of the work of Dr. Javed Iqbal. The critical evaluation turned up to be the highest tributes an artist could receive for his work.

"A very well accomplished reconstruction work that bears witness of great expert knowledge." We ourselves would

be proud, if we had carried out operations like these".

Dr. Javeed repaired many Afghan injured faces. The young men were wounded in Afghanistan battle.

They were in Pakistan to have their disfigured faces repaired. The atmosphere is hearty-behind plasters and bandages, they are laughing at each other, talking in mono-syllables with their distorted voices, grinning, giggling, hiding their faces in their hands.

"I was hit by bomb splinters," eighteen year old Gul Jan tells, suddenly becoming serious. "We had a fight with the Russians, and I got in the way of bomb splinters. My village has been levelled with the ground, but my family is still in the area. Gul Jan was born in Lashar Gar in the southwest of Afghanistan. His father was killed in the war. But his mother, one brother and two sisters are waiting for him. An uncle has gone with him to Twbstan.

"You should have seen me previously. I was sort of good looking before, but now I look like this," he says with a smile, his fellow patients laughing in their beds.

One of them is still hiding under a sheet. After much persuasion, he peeps out. Around his head he has tied a thick scarf. His name is Abdul Khaliq and he comes from the Pansjir Valley. One year ago, the stronghold of his guerilla group was bombed. Five Mujahideens were killed. He himself escaped, his face badly wounded.

The male nurse in the hospital helped him to untie his scarf. Only a few months have passed since he had his latest operation. Two big bandages, one on his forehead, and one on his chin, a disfigured nose and upper lip are revealed.

I came to Pakistan on horseback, he whispers. Another one rode it for me for fifteen days. I had a big hole in my face. All my teeth had been broken, and it was difficult to eat. I thought I would never recover, but now I have started hoping again. There was no sense in applying to the big Hospitals for help. They do not carry out plastic surgical operations of the face. Abdul

Khaliq came to a Pakistani clinic with a surgeon who said that he was able to help him.

It was very expensive, and the only thing that I got was medicine against pain. My money came to an end. Then he heard about Dr. Javeed.

Dr. Javeed held in high esteem, with 22 years of experience from his work in Canada, USA, West Germany and Switzerland.

He could have stayed in Canada, but he longed for Pakistan and Peshawar. He wanted his children to grow up in a Muslim society.

#### MORE OPERATIONS

To recreate a face takes five or six operation. A private clinic in Karachi would request 15000-40000 rupees.

If the young men are not helped, they will become social invalids for the rest of their lives. They can't go anywhere without being pointed out and they will have difficulties getting married in the future. Dr. Javeed Iqbal is not judging the fact that some of his patients may return with new injuries.

"It is their own business. I do not lay down conditions for my work. I have a humanitarian job, and this implies that I should be able to treat a Russian soldier."

It is time for operation. It is seven o'clock P.M. and the chill has come. Gul Jan lies down on the operating table, where steel tubes are glistening in the bright light of the lamps. The operation room is simple. On some shelves there are instruments: scissors, pincers, small forceps. An anaesthetist occasionally called in, a nurse, the doctor who is letting out his operating rating clothes. A blood bag is hung close to Gul Jan. The anaesthetist is having some difficulty trying to find a place for fastening the needle. He is searching Gul Jan's arms and legs for a long time.

"It is difficult to procure blood, Dr. Javeed says behind his mouth. protection. The Afghan believes they will be ill, if they give blood. Sometimes they will come with blood brought in the bazar, which means that it might be the blood

of a junkie, blood from abroad is a doubtful article these days. I won't take the risk of importing aids blood, he says laughingly. The consequence is that we have to persuade some relatives or friends to give blood.

It is difficult to anaesthetize Gul Jan. A tube has to be lead down through the trachea into one of the lungs. The passage is narrow. After 20 minutes Gul Jan has had enough. Still awake he starts moving, pulling up his legs, turning around. He heavily falls down from the operating table.

Dr. Javeed and the others are reacting calmly. They carefully lift him up again talking soothingly to him. From now on the nurse is holding his legs in a firm grip. Some minutes later he is anaesthetized.

One hour later Gul Jan wakes up. In a dizzy state he is lead down to room to rest. His uncle, who is nervously waiting outside, breathes a sigh of relief and regains colour in his face. Dr. Javeed takes off gloves and operating coat.

"Now one more operation is necessary. I'll give the chap a nose".

Dr. Syed Javeed Iqbal was born at Kohat in 1936. He did his B.Sc. Honours in 1956 from the University of Peshawar, and joined Khyber Medical College. He was awarded with a merit scholarship to study medicine at Heidelberg, W. Germany. After obtaining the degree of Doctor of Medicine, Cum laude, in Germany, he went to Switzerland, USA Canada and U.K. for postgraduate training in general and plastic surgery after spending 22 years abroad. He returned to Pakistan in 1979 and served as consultant in plastic surgery to the International Red Cross Hospital, Peshawar. In 1983 he joined Kyber Medical College as an Assistant Professor of Surgery.

## WESTERN JOURNALIST FINDS MUJAHIDIN UNITED, DETERMINED

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English Supplement 10 Mar 87 p A

[Text]

I embarked on my first journey to Afghanistan in six years with some trepidation because of Press reports throughout the year that the Afghan Mujahideen fighting the Soviet invaders and the Communists' government in Kabul had been taking a hammering and, according to some articles, were practically on the point of collapse.

There had been grim tales of the insurgents being wiped out in their strongholds by Soviet helicopter and by air attacks. Soviet elite 'Spetsnaz' commandoes were supposed to have made striking successes, punishing the Mujahideen with swift and deadly surprise attacks and succeeding in cutting the guerillas' supply lines in a bid to starve them of food and weapons.

The Russians were even supposedly withdrawing six regiments of men because their pacification of the country was so successful that they were presumably no longer needed. Pakistani and western intelligence sources, as well as an Afghan army general who defected to the Mujahideen in October, said that the Russians had poured troops into the country before their well-publicised "withdrawal" in the autumn.

But even before leaving Peshawar in October for the journey west to Parachinar in the tribal homelands of Pakistan and hence to Afghanistan, I found encouraging signs. Peshawar has, since the beginning of the conflict been, the headquarters for the various Mujahideen groups fighting the Russians. Six years ago there had been considerably disanim-

ity between the groups, which even sometimes extended to the fighting groups within Afghanistan. Now there seemed to be a healthy cooperation between the seven largest of the Islamic groups who try to co-ordinate a strategy for the struggle within Afghanistan.

Engineer Gulbudin Hekmatyar, leader of the Hezb-e-Islamic group with which I was going to travel into Afghanistan, is annoyed that the war has been portrayed as swinging in favour of the Russians this year.

Hekmatyar said: "The resistance is now in a better position than any time before. We are stronger and better-organised and it is false to say that the Russians have made any advances. In the last seven months of this year the activity of the Mujahideen was higher than for the whole of 1985. It's correct that we are facing more difficulties than before but that does not mean that resistance has weakened. The situation is completely in favour of the Mujahideen."

Hekmatyar thought that Western governments should take every diplomatic opportunity to criticise the Russians for their military adventure in Afghanistan but also to take practical steps to aid the resistance. One of these, he suggested, should be to order out the Kabul-appointed diplomats from Afghanistan embassies around the world and hand the buildings over to the Mujahideen, who, Hekmatyar said, had the overwhelming sympathy of Af-

ghanistan's population.

My first stop in the war zone was the Mujahideen camp at Al Fatah wund near the summit of the mountains which constitute the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Six years before there had been no buildings there but a sorrowful, seemingly endless stream of refugees pathetically carrying all that remained of their worldly belongings on donkeys, camels on their own backs. This was the vanguard of a six million-strong tide of refugees who have fled their country and now live in bleak refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran.

At Al Fatah wund there is now an impressive complex of buildings housing men, weapons and stores, and including bomb shelters for safety during the frequent communist air attacks and even petrol-driven electric generators which power machinery and provide light during the long, bitterly cold nights.

But more impressive than the buildings and the organisation was the discipline and spirit of the men. I did not find evidence of demoralisation, instead there was a determination and an unwavering conviction that the Mujahideen would win. There was much more emphasis on the importance of Islam than I had found six years ago. Not only did the men strictly adhere to the daily routine of prayers, but I felt that they had really been imbued with a devotion that would carry them through the most horrific rigours. There is now an awareness that the struggle for



the freedom of Afghanistan is not just a national battle but one that is critical to the entire Muslim world. I felt that the struggle had now really been lifted to the status of a Jihad — a holy war.

With a group of Mujahideen from Hezbi Islami I revisited some of the areas in Paktia and Logar provinces where I had first gone in 1980. Despite Hekmatyar's optimism, it was obvious that the Mujahideen were operating under vastly more difficult circumstances than of six years before. The most pressing problems are those of food and medicine.

The countryside is without a doubt mainly controlled by the Mujahideen but the communist forces have succeeded in almost entirely eradicating agricultural activity.

Where I remembered neat, terraced fields of man-high wheat there were now scrubby lunar wastelands pockmarked by bomb craters and blackened by napalm. Villages which had still clung to a semblance of normality in the first year of the war had been levelled by bombing and their populations either killed or fled to Pakistan or Iran.

The Russians are trying to create a cordon sanitaire about 40 miles deep from the Pakistan border into Afghanistan to prevent guerillas being supplied with locally-grown food and to create a sort of free-fire zone where anyone moving around is regarded by the communists as hostile and is liable to attack. Food was scarce with Afghan bread and rice the main commodities provided by other Mujahideen enclaves based in deserted and ruined villages. The occasional potato — being encouraged as a crop that the Mujahideen should grow because it is less easy to destroy by bombing or napalming than wheat — was a luxury. A French doctor who had spent six months in the country said that malnutrition among the population has reached epidemic proportions with thousands of children dying. Many of the Mujahideen I met had bleeding gums, a sign of vitamin deficiency.

The Mujahideen are frequently forced to carry weeks and weeks of food supplies with them on long expeditions. Any extra weight to be carried in the gruelling mountainous terrain that the guerillas

operate over is an unwelcome burden but the Mujahideen shoulder the supplies with the same stoicism that they resign themselves to the other hardships that accompany being a fighter who relies just as much on faith as modern equipment for waging his struggle.

But discipline and organisation have undeniably improved and several of the Mujahideen groups as well as Hezb-i-Islami, the largest of groups, have permanent bases protected by anti-aircraft batteries near the Afghan-Pakistan border.

Although food was scarce the guerillas seemed satisfied with their weapons. The ubiquitous AK47 Kalashnikov automatic rifle is the standard tool of both sides in the conflict and most groups have RPG 7 rocket propelled grenade launchers, designed for use against armoured vehicles. Both the weapons are of Soviet origin but have also been manufactured for many years by the USSR's satellite states and China. Arab countries once armed by the Russians and China have contributed much of the Mujahideen's war material and the oil-rich Gulf countries swayed by the Afghan's argument that they are fighting a Holy War in defence of the entire Muslim world, have been generous with funds. America has begun providing some of the Mujahideen groups with Stinger heat-seeking surface to air missiles for use against the helicopters which remain the scourge of resistance fighters.

But some of the Mujahideen groups, including Hezb-i-Islami were arguing that to accept the heat-seeking missiles would be a mistake because the communists could use the fact as a propaganda weapon to accuse them of being western stooges. However, while I was in the country another of the groups, Hezb-i-Islami (Khalis), a Hekmatyar group, took delivery of Stingers and reportedly used them with good effect against helicopters.

Those villages which are still inhabited, are controlled by the Mujahideen with the wholehearted support of their populations. Detractors would say that those opposed to the Mujahideen had been destroyed but there is little evidence to sustain that argument.

The Mujahideen try to provide a structure for as near a normal life as possible within the "liberated areas" with a locally-elected political commander in overall charge.

He not only supervises the military operations through his fighting commanders but all other aspects of life, establishing medical and education facilities for villagers and organising life on strictly Islamic lines.

Moral among the Mujahideen seemed genuinely high and the leader of our group, Gulab Gul, said: "After seven years the Russians still cannot control the countryside, they can only destroy it. They control only parts of the cities and when their convoys come out we destroy them."

To prove his point, Gulab Gul took us to the area of Hassan Khel in the north west of **tezh province** where his group had attacked a joint Afghan-Soviet convoy three weeks before. A snake-like column of 35 tanks, armoured personnel carriers and lorries, many brand new, had been destroyed by mines and rockets as they attempted to cross a river. Gulab Gul said three hundred soldiers had died in the attack. Nearby, a Soviet MI-8 gunship helicopter had been downed by an RPG 7 rocket fired from a hill. Gulab Gul said proudly: "We do not need Stingers, we are very inventive and we now have experts who can use the RPG. The Russians will never win because if there is only one Afghan left, he will be fighting them."

Later, as we rested in a bombed and deserted village, a flight of eight helicopters flew low overhead. The Mujahideen aimed an RPG 7, fired and missed. The helicopters sped away, spewing out flares to misguide any heat-seeking missiles that might be fired at them. About an hour after we left the village, the helicopters returned and bombed the ruins.

The Afghans, "inventive" but not always accurate, seem capable, despite the Soviet claims of breakthroughs, of maintaining indefinitely the present level of attrition. The Mujahideen cannot win but neither are the Russians near to crushing them. The idea of Islam and a Jihad has consolidated its hold on the national con-

sciousness and seems to make up inspiritual strength what the Mujahideen lack elsewhere.

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CSO: 4600/180



# RELATIONS WITH U.S., IRAQ'S FUTURE ANALYZED

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 4 Mar 87 pp 2,3

[Text]

DESPITE all the face-value of anti-Iran propaganda by the U.S. the truth is that President Ronald Reagan Administration has made extensive efforts for renewing relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran during the last few months.

These American moves, however, were made public in a way or other and the opportunist Democrat took full advantage of the situation to attract the voters for their candidate in the next presidential elections.

The weak administration of President Reagan failed in its bid to resist the 'electoral plots' of the Democrats and the situation became bad to worse which resulted in great humiliation for the entire U.S. administrative system.

The 'buck' stops with the fact that the U.S. still needs relations with the Islamic Republic.

Observers believe that the recent flurry of anti-Iranian remarks and statements by the White House officials is in line with the bid to save the face of Reagan Administration which received severe blow after the announcement of Tower Commission report. The report proved the officials of that country are 'weak, ineffective and Mr.

Reagan is reigning an office where the law of jungle exists."

The anti-Iranian statements and baseless accusations against Tehran are also meant to cool down American allies in the region who took America on the face value of its similar statements in the past.

Now a very simple question may creep in the minds of common people as to why the Americans want to have relations with Iran. This question becomes more confusing for them when they know the fact that the war was imposed on Iran to crush the Islamic Revolution. The Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has no other role in the war except to be a 'most obedient servant.'

Here one bare fact should be kept in mind and that is, that all the calculations of the Eastern and Western oppressors about this war proved to be wrong.

These oppressive powers while hatching plots against the Islamic Republic missed a vital factor... the power of the historical resistance of the Iranian Moslems.

Now the same resistance coupled with the faith in Islam has made the Saddam's regime vulnerable. It is now more clearer than at any previous time that President Saddam is about to fall in the pit which he dug for others.

The present situation at the warfronts and inside Iraq has alarmed both the Superpowers. The worries of the Superpowers vary according to their own strategy for the present and future planning.

The United States is worried about its allies in the region which, more distinctly, can be listed as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan and Israel who consider the Iranian victory as a potential danger to their regimes.

On the other hand, Moscow officials, who enjoy lesser wisdom than U.S. consider Iraq's defeat as the defeat of the Soviet Union's war machinery as this Communist country has emerged as the main supplier of weapons to Iraq. The experts from the Soviet Union are in Iraq to train the Iraqi army personnel.

In these circumstances, the U.S. is more eager than ever before to have close relations with Tehran government with the sole objective that the Iranian officials should assure Washington that no anti-U.S. regime will be installed in Iraq. Rather the Americans would also push the idea that unlike the present regime the new regime should be anti-Soviet.

With this aim in mind the U.S. officials want to keep their allies intact plus the desire that these allies should be increased in number.

On the other hand, unlike the Americans, the Soviets are still playing a foul game and vainly trying to keep President Saddam in power.. a move which can easily be dubbed as 'mission impossible..

Both the Superpowers are now busy to solve this puzzle and working on a different line. The West is in search of a successor to President Saddam and the East is trying to find a way to keep the same person in power.

On this issue the West proved to be wiser and thinks no more to inject life into a dead person such as Iraqi President Saddam.

The West, however, has its own difficulty, and that is, who should replace Iraqi President Saddam.

On their part, the Iranians despite the deep

knowledge of the Eastern and Western plots are marching forward on the road to victory which surely they have in store as they had the capture of Faw or the glorious success during the Karbala-5 operations.

Such Iranian victories will for sure result in the collapse of President Saddam. After the Iranian victories the world will see that Iran will implement its already announced policy i.e. the Iraqis will be free to choose their future government according to their own choice which we are sure will follow a truly non-aligned policy leaning neither towards the West nor the East.

We wish that the West and the East would foresee the final Iranian victory otherwise they may get the surprise of life this time.

TEHRAN RADIO COMMENTARY COMPARES CUBAN, IRANIAN MISSILE CRISES

NC270530 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. The oppressive media is continuing to focus its attention on the missiles deployed on the Islamic Republic's coasts. This issue remains a matter of interest to those political analysts and observers who are attempting to highlight the comments made in the United States with regard to the presence of these missiles and their threat to the security of U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf.

This missile issue brings to mind the Cuban missile crisis fabricated by the United States some 20 years ago. That particular crisis ended with the Soviet experts dismantling the missiles in question in accordance with the U.S. wish. At that time, divisions were running rampant among White House officials and threatening to bring about the collapse of the U.S. political machine with respect to the Soviet Union, the other power in the international conflict. The United States tried to exploit the missile issue to deceive the U.S. public into believing that there was a danger threatening the country, a danger represented by the Soviet missiles deployed on Cuban territory. The objective was to cover up existing differences and force U.S. politicians to unite their stands on the pretext of imminent danger.

This is the clever policy pursued by the United States whenever it senses the impending collapse of the administration's domestic position. It quickly resorts to the use of sirens to make the American citizen feel the danger. The United States has dealt with the missiles deployed by the Islamic Republic on its coasts in the same way that it dealt with the Cuban missile issue. It has tried to turn this matter into a real crisis by claiming that Iran bought a number of missiles from the Soviet Union in return for allowing Moscow to monitor stations on the Gulf shores.

The United States is trying to link this issue to its traditional classical struggle with the Soviet Union. America made a very similar attempt during the Cuban missile crisis. At that time it tried to create a connection between the struggle over missiles and the conflict between the East and West blocs in order to give the issue a primary strategic dimension and not a secondary one.

The United States is seeking to exploit the current missile issue in an effort to deal with its declining domestic situation following the exposure of its failure to restore relations with the Islamic Republic. This exposure has had grave consequences for U.S. policy and has led to a big retreat in the administration's position. This scandal has also given rise to divisions, references to which are currently taking up a great deal of space in daily reports and analyses. The U.S. Administration has tried to exploit the missile issue in an effort to prevent the U.S. position from collapsing entirely.

When one compares these two crises, however, there are a few facts which must be mentioned. The first such fact is that the missiles deployed by the Islamic Republic are thousands of kilometers away from the U.S. coast while the Cuban missiles were no more than 400 kilometers away. The second fact is that the Cuban missiles were installed by Soviet experts and deployed on the basis of a Soviet decision for Soviet purposes. The missiles in the Islamic Republic were installed by Islamic hands in accordance with a decision made by the Islamic Republic with clear purposes in mind. These missiles have no connection with any big power either in their (?installation) or their purpose.

Consequently, the fate of these missiles will not be the same as that suffered by the Cuban missiles which were dismantled after being installed. The Cuban missiles were removed as a result of political calculations related to the strategic balance between the two major camps.

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CSO: 4600/184

## PAPER DISCUSSES REGIME-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 9 Mar 87 p 2

[Text]

ON Saturday, the new ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Lebanon, Mr. Ahmad Dastmalchian, arrived in Beirut along with a high-ranking Iranian delegation. An extensive ceremony was held to welcome the new Iranian ambassador by the Moslem people of Lebanon. The welcome awarded to the Iranian delegation by Lebanese Moslems was so glorious that even the Western news agencies reported it. One news agency called it a display of power of "Islamic fundamentalism" in Lebanon.

Reports from Lebanon say a huge population shouting "Allah-o-Akbar Khomeini Rahbar", welcomed the Islamic Republic delegation by raining flowers on it and sacrificing sheep. Included in the Iranian delegation are Ayatollah Jannati, the head of the Islamic Propagation Organization, Hojjatoleslam Ghayouri, Imam Khomeini's representative to Red Crescent, Hojjatoleslam Ibrahim, in charge of office of Ayatollah Montazeri, Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Abbas Zanjani, a member of the Combatant Ulama Society of Tehran and a number of other political officials of the Islamic Republic.

In addition to a large number of Sunni and Shia Moslems and Ulama of Lebanon, a number of officials of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry, and officials of Amal and Hezbollah also welcomed the Iranian delegation.

The new Iranian ambassador to Lebanon gave a speech in which he declared Imam's and the Iranian Moslem nation's full support for the combatant Moslems of Lebanon. Mr. Dastmalchian added, "The Islamic Republic of Iran is using all its efforts to support the Moslem nation of Lebanon and stresses on unity of Lebanese Moslems, whether Sunni or Shia. It also declares its full support for the struggle against the Zionist occupiers".



Iran and Lebanon are two countries which enjoy a deep relationship, which is unprecedented anywhere else in the world. From the very beginning Iran has paid especial importance to its relations with the Lebanese Moslem people. Irano-Lebanese relations acquired especial importance after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. While the Arab and reactionary countries maintained silence on this aggression, and the so-called combatant factions in Lebanon retreated in face the aggression, the Islamic Republic of Iran despite being involved in the Iraqi imposed war, actively fought against the Zionist regime. Iran sent its combatants several times to the country, and though this presence was not as extensive as we wanted it to be, yet it helped to warm the hearts of Lebanese peoples and support them in their darkest hours. Establishment of base for military and ideological training by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) in Bekaa Valley also helped the Lebanese Moslems to eventually achieve victory over the Zionist aggressors and the U.S. and European occupation forces.

The presence and deep influence of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon earned the anger of imperialist and Zionist circles. Moreover, Iran also gave martyrs for the holy cause of Lebanese Moslems. For instance, in the bombardment of Baalbek by Israeli warplanes in 1983, 13 Iranian Moslem combatants were martyred.

The Phalangists in Lebanon, who saw the balance of power to their detriment after the withdrawal of Israel, opposed the Iranian presence.

The arrival of the new Iranian ambassador to Lebanon at a time when the Lebanese Moslems are still suffering from the martyrdom of 27 Hezbollah men by Syrian forces, has helped to sooth the feelings of Lebanese Moslems.

Due to its deep ties with the Lebanese Moslems, who form the majority of the country's population, the Islamic Republic views with particular sensitivity the events in this country. The Iranian foreign policy in Lebanon is based on preserving the territorial integrity of the country and regaining the lost rights of the Lebanese Moslems.

The realization of these aims is especially difficult because of occupation of southern Lebanon by the Zionist regime. Of course it must be noted that the Israeli regime is not only present in southern sectors of the country, but has its presence among certain factions of Lebanon, particularly the Phalangists who are the long-time allies of Zionism. The idea that the Lebanese Moslems can regain their lost rights through negotiations with the Phalangists is a totally false one. Islamic Iran at present views with especial concern the change of stance of President Amin Gemayel and his welcome of the presence of Syrian forces in West Beirut.

MUSAVI, RAFIQDUST MARK NATIONAL DAY, GUARDS DAY

LD011420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Today, 1 April, Iran's revolutionary Muslims marked the anniversary of the formation of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the anniversary of Guards Day. Since the early hours of this morning, Iran's Muslims have been holding special ceremonies marking this historical day.

During the ceremonies held in Imam Husayn Square, the national anthem was played followed by a speech by Mr Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], marking Guards Day. He said: The Islamic Revolution Guards are shouldering the main burden of defending the revolution, and today the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] has the [Islamic Revolution Guards] committee and the corps as a powerful force on its side.

The Guards Corps minister added: The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps constitutes the most successful experiment of Iran's Islamic Revolution, a corps which, thanks to its capabilities, can destroy any aggressor. He emphasized: Our enemy is about to fall, and our victory is both clear-cut and obvious; the world knows this, and we now proclaim that should the ruling regime in Iraq once again begin a war of the cities, the missile unit of the IRGC will deliver a crushing rebuff to the Zionist enemy.

[Prime Minister] Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi then spoke about the sacrifices made by the IRGC throughout the Islamic Revolution. He said: Since the inception of the IRI, the Guards have played a major role in the Islamic Revolution, and have moved along the same path traveled by the companions of Imam Husayn--may peace be upon him!--at the dawn of Islam.

The prime minister added: Although we do not possess complex weapon systems in our stand against world arrogance, and although we do not enjoy its economic might, nonetheless, we do have an even more powerful weapon, a weapon that has triumphed over the sword: the spirit of calling for martyrdom, against which no technology or hardware can be effective. Our victories are the outcome of the power of Islamic and moral faith.

Emphasizing that we will continue the war until final victory, and that the world should know that nothing can stop the movement of our nation and

combatants, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi said: This war has been imposed on us to defeat Islam and overthrow the sovereignty of the IRI. Therefore, it cannot end in any other way but in strengthening the Islamic regime and in overthrowing the aggressor. Today our people's and combatants' efforts are geared toward realizing this very aim. Our war today is a cultural and moral war. Under no circumstances can our nation tolerate--not even for a second--foreign culture!

Referring to the government's policies, based on defending the deprived and meek, the prime minister said: Today we possess a very powerful system capable of standing up to the biggest plots hatched by the superpowers, a powerful system that the entire world has come to realize. Let us proclaim here and now to all the splinter groups: Return to Islam's embrace and live peacefully alongside your own people. At the same time, let us proclaim that we do not practice any flexibility in our cultural and economic policies, and that our aim is clear. We are both uncompromising and decisive in our resolve.

Emphasizing the fact that the IRI, within a logical and acceptable framework, is ready to expand its relations with all countries, the prime minister announced: We will not remain silent against those countries hatching plots against the IRI. We hereby tell the countries of the region that remaining with the United States is not in their interest. Saddam is a cadaver, and support of him will bring them nothing but harm. The only thing that can safeguard these countries' interests in this region is the people's power of faith and Islam. Being on the side of the IRI is in the interest of all the regional countries. These countries should no longer hold themselves aloof from their people; they can learn from us the experience of popular power. We are not pursuing the cause of war in this region, and we wish to place all of our resources at the service of the deprived and meek!

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CSO: 4600/184

MINISTER FARHADI ON EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

NC281251 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent, Mr Farhadi, minister of higher education and culture, discussed the ministry's activities during the past [Iranian] year. We invite you to listen to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Your Excellency, please discuss the activities of the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture during the past year, what new activities it started, and, in general, what successes it has achieved.

[Farhadi] In the name of God, the Almighty. I congratulate the imam of the ummah, the brave combatants of Islam, and the martyr-nurturing ummah on the new year. The first part of my remarks focuses on the activities related to the imposed war. In addition to the vast dispatches of students, professors, and employees of the universities and colleges to the fronts, for the first time a great deal of military and defense research was carried out by the universities, the university jihads, professors, and students with the help of sectors in charge of war affairs.

In 1365 [year ending 20 March 1987] more than 65,000 students were accepted into the universities, and our dormitories were expanded by 5,000 beds. More than 400 students received foreign scholarships. Half of them have already been sent abroad and the other half will be sent, too, God willing. Some 7,800 foreign diplomas were evaluated, 78 new education programs were approved by the ministry's Supreme Programming Council, and more than 550 new academics were employed in the universities. We also succeeded in employing 80 foreign professors, in accordance with directives issued by the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. Some 23 permits were issued for the establishment of universities and colleges; 55 new postgraduate courses were introduced into our universities and, for the first time, 31 doctorate courses were introduced. Students have already enrolled in many of these courses.

As for research activities, the country's Scientific Research Council was formed in 1365 under the chairmanship of the prime minister. The duties of this council are to coordinate, support, direct, and supervise the country's research projects.

The preliminary steps for forming the country's scientific information bank were taken and the center for its equipment was set up. God willing, we will set up the country's scientific information disseminating network in the near future, too.

We helped with 13 scientific congresses and issued permits for the publication of 92 scientific, technical, and medical journals. The evaluation process for two international scientific magazines in the medical, technical, and engineering fields was completed in 1365 and they will be published, God willing, in early 1366. Four new research centers, one of which is the Center for the Research and Development of Polymer Industries, received permits for the first time in Iran. More than 600 topics for research concerning the country's problems were distributed among the universities and colleges and God willing, the country's difficulties will be overcome by the research they will carry out. Some 35 glossaries and bibliographies were also published. We issued permits to individuals, universities, and research institutions for the purchase of more than 13,000 scientific books from abroad.

In 1365, some 6,850 of our students began and completed industrial training, which was accomplished with the help of our Bureau for Relations With Industries.

As for cultural and historic activities, more than 40,000 people visited the newly opened anthropological museum. The Iran Bastan Museum was reopened during the auspicious 10-day dawn ceremonies after a closure of 11 years. Some 65 cultural books were published by the ministry's Scientific and Cultural Publications Company. Professors of the Persian language were sent to foreign universities; namely in India, Pakistan, Yugoslavia, and Spain to strengthen their Persian language departments.

As for the activities of the national UNESCO committee in Iran, in addition to our activities in international UNESCO meetings against the aggression by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and their bombing of cities, ancient monuments, and scientific and educational centers, we participated in the eighth Asian photographic contest and the UNESCO exhibition in Paris, as well as sending 35 Iranians to receive training within the framework of UNESCO courses. More than 30 university textbooks on the humanities and Islamic sciences are under publication and will be circulated, God willing. I am happy to state that the National Library of Iran now has more than 110,000 Persian and Arabic books; 120,000 foreign books; 17,000 books on Iranology and Islamology; 1,078 Persian magazines; more than 70 foreign magazines; and more than 12,000 manuscripts. This is, in short, the activities of the ministry during 1365.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Farhadi] You are welcome. [end recording]

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## GENDARMERIE CHIEF ON ANTISMUGGLING ACTIVITIES

NC260759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Colonel Sohrabi, the commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Gendarmerie, spoke to the Central News Unit correspondent and gave details of the gendarmerie's activities and performance in the past year. He said: The battle against narcotics smuggling is considered of prime importance, and the gendarmerie have sacrificed esteemed martyrs while on their path of duty fighting alongside Islamic Komiteh brothers on the country's eastern frontiers. Personnel have been able to recover 15 tons of opium, opium residue, and burned opium, as well as 750 kg of heroin, from 30,000 smugglers over the past year, and their efforts have resulted in the disbanding of some international drug smuggling networks.

Regarding surveillance on the frontiers, he said that gendarmerie officials had seized more than 2,579 high-quality handwoven carpets, as well as 60 kg of gold and 2,372 unlicensed weapons of various kinds, all of which smugglers had attempted to take out of the country. Colonel Sohrabi referred to the gendarmerie's extensive assistance to flood victims in the past year, adding that the gendarmerie's engineering operations had succeeded in constructing 559 km of border roads. While recounting the participation of the gendarmerie personnel on the Fronts of Light versus Darkness, Col Sohrabi stated: The gendarmerie were extremely active and participated extensively in the fight against the counterrevolutionaries in Kordestan and Orumiye to consolidate the Islamic Republic of Iran's control, and they continue their active participation.

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POST MINISTER REVIEWS ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

NC310756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Interview with Mohammad Gharazi, minister of post, telegraph, and telephone, by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Mr Gharazi, could you please tell us about the activities of your ministry in the year 1365 [year ending 20 March 1987]?

[Gharazi] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. With greetings to the imam of the nation and to the imam's community. Two posts and telecommunications units providing all services and staffed by 52,000 functioned remarkably and efficiently throughout the year. As far as the postal network is concerned, I note that services have been expanded considerably, and we are nearer self-sufficiency. In the 52 weeks of the past year 52 new stamps commemorating various important stages in the revolution have been issued. Postal services are of immense importance economically. We hope to participate more actively in this sector and to initiate express postal services.

In the field of telecommunications, automatic telephone exchanges have been set up in 71 cities, and 153,000 new telephone connections were allotted to the people in 1365. The most ever allotted to the people under the previous regime was 101,000 in the year 1356. The number of cities gaining access to intercity connections and codes numbered more than 53 last year, and telecommunication facilities were set up along the lengths of the front and borders. These facilities provided for the war effort were most appropriate, and it can be said that the Post and Telegraph Ministry contributed directly to the war effort.

Financially, income increased by more than 30 percent, despite the fact that rates were not increased. The country's telecommunications facilities have been functioning self-sufficiently, especially in recent years, and in addition to the total current for salaries--4.5 billion tumans--nearly 8 billion tumans have recently been invested for the construction of new post offices and telecommunications centers in outlying areas. Regarding manpower, training, and technology and reducing dependence on foreign countries in postal affairs, we can say that we have adequate potential, and dependence on other countries was reduced by 80 percent in the year 1365. The remaining

20 percent pertains to the foreign exchange needs of the ministry. In view of all the problems on the national scale, our activities have doubled in comparison with the previous year.

[Correspondent] Now let us talk about the year 1366 [year beginning 21 March 1987]. Could you please tell us about the program for the coming year?

[Gharazi] It will be the same as for the year 1365, with greater efforts and reliance on the constant participation of the people. We hope to be more active, rendering greater services and issuing more stamps, God willing. As far as telecommunications are concerned, the number of connections opened last year was 153,000, as I mentioned earlier, which we hope to surpass this year. God willing, when we submit our report at the end of the year we will be able to tell you the exact number. However, under the present circumstances we envisage 220,000 new connections all over the country in the year 1366, which we think is considerable.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

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AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON PRODUCTION

NC220917 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] In an interview conducted by a Central News Unit correspondent from the Voice and Vision [of Iran], Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas-'Ali Zali discussed the important aspects of the activities undertaken by his ministry during this last year. He noted that fruit and vegetable exports had increased approximately 100 percent in 1365 [year ending on 20 March 1987]. I now invite you to listen to our colleague's interview with the minister of agriculture.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Zali, please tell us what impact the Ministry of Agriculture's activities have had on production and on efforts to improve the economic situation in our country during this past year.

[Zali] In the name of God, the Almighty. I extend greetings to the great imam, to our brave fighters, and to the combatant, resistant, and selfless people, especially our dear farmers, tribesmen, and fishermen. I want to congratulate all the dear people on this new year and on the occasion of the auspicious 'Id-e Mab'as.

Fortunately, 1365 was a successful year. With its 11 percent growth, it continued the relatively good agricultural year we witnessed in 1364 [year ending 20 March 1986]. First and foremost, we should consider this to be the result of God's blessings, for we had a very good rainfall once again this last year. Second, our success is the result of the labor of our dear farmers and producers who exerted maximum effort with minimum demands. Last, but not least, we should also mention all those who were assigned the responsibility of fulfilling various duties associated with agriculture.

The 1365 crop year was a good one. Sugar beet production grew by 25 percent in comparison with 1364. In other words, sugar beet production increased from 3.9 million tons to more than 4.9 million tons.

As for our grain crop, not only was there no need to import quantities like we did 2 or 3 years ago, but we also produced more than 40,000 tons for export. We produced something like 10,000 tons of peas and beans for export.

With regard to our wheat crop, approximately 500,000 to 600,000 tons of surplus wheat were produced. We were therefore able, thank God, to reduce our barley imports considerably. In the end, we imported only a very small quantity.

We also experienced an increase in the production of other products such as chicken and eggs; that is, about a 70,000 ton increase in chicken meat production and a 10,000 ton increase in eggs. As for our fisheries, last year there was an approximately 30,000 ton difference in output between fishing in the seas and production within the country compared with the year before that.

The growth rate for other products such as fodder and orchard fruits was also relatively good. This year, thank God, there was an abundance of fruit. The role played by the Ministry of Agriculture in all this can be found, in my opinion, in the variety of seeds which it distributed among the farmers. Fortunately, during the current year our research centers were also able to play a notable role in this regard.

Last year we introduced a new type of barley, known as (Alas), and it yielded 4 tons in Moghan. We introduced a variety of wheat called Golestan in the Gonbad and Gorgan regions, and it will replace the regular varieties now being planted. Three new strains of cotton have been introduced which are much better than previous varieties. A sugar beet that is resistant to the diseases existing in the Khuzestan region has been introduced there. A variety of broad beans, known as Abrekhat, which has a very high crop yield, has been introduced as well.

Facilities such as the Razi Institute have been able to introduce new vaccines for livestock, as well as manufacture some vaccines to aid in curing human diseases. Pedology units have played an important role in specifying the soil potential of our country; the potentiality of 1 million hectares of land has been so determined.

Great importance was attached to increasing production efficiency per hectare in 1365. Model farmers were chosen and agricultural exhibitions were organized. The Ministry of Agriculture also stressed the need to make investment in agriculture possible for the people. Thank God, we achieved good results in this regard as well. We were able to specify that a portion of the country's disposable land be given to the people for agricultural purposes. We also formulated an animal husbandry policy which took into account industrial and traditional husbandry, as well as livestock maintenance. The skins of these animals will also be utilized. We then conveyed this policy to the provinces. Fortunately, there has been greater movement toward the people's investment in agriculture this year than previous ones.

There has also been extensive activity in the field of fisheries. Thank God, our efforts have yielded good results. Even in the market we can see that the quantity of fish available was much greater this year than in 1364.

Our dear compatriots are also aware of the fact that our exports increased this year. The quantity of our fruit and vegetable exports grew about 100 percent in comparison with the year before. We witnessed a growth of more than 30 percent in the total quantity of our exports this year in comparison with last year, and a large part of this increase came from agricultural products.

A much more important and very successful activity carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture was the preparation of plans for the compilation of a bill on self-sufficiency which the government will submit to the Majlis. Excellent plans were prepared with regard to various products. Twenty-five books on several topics have been published which will be able, God willing, to determine future policies in both the field of agriculture and in other domains associated with it.

Therefore, we hope that with the very favorable rainfall which we had at the start and end of the previous year and, God willing, with the steps which have been taken to ensure the people's participation, our dear farmers, fishermen, livestock herders, and tribesmen will be able to play a more important role in the country's economy during the current year.

[Correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

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CSO: 4600/184

# WALLS SAID TO PREACH 'HOLY HATE'

Paris LE FIGARO MAGAZINE in French 7 Mar 87 pp 152-155

[Text by Alain de Benoist; photos by Claude Francois: "Walls Preach Holy Hate"]

[Excerpts] In Tehran, the walls communicate. Conceived and carried out under the auspices of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance (in charge of terrorism as well as intelligence and propaganda), frescoes normally are visible on the walls of official buildings or military headquarters. Here, in the heart of Tehran, on the walls of the British Embassy, the panel reminds the passersby of the collusion of the Western countries to deliver arms (symbolized by the revolver, the dagger and the weapons on the table, around which Mrs Thatcher, Ronald Reagan and Francois Mitterrand are gathered) [photo A] to Saddam Husayn, recognizable by his big mustache, wearing the Star of David [photo B], while the stars of the American flag and the hammer of the Soviet flag are transformed invariably into skeleton heads [photos C and D].

The main target of soldier-artists is the leader of Iraq, Saddam Husayn [photo E]; disguised as dove and maintained by the United States [photo 1]; as the devil [photo 5]; and as prisoner of a bomb with timing device [photo 7]. The "Allies" are not spared either: Francois Mitterrand [photo 2]; USSR propped up by an Afghan bomb [photo 3]; two-faced Uncle Sam [photo 4]; and Mrs Thatcher as the faithful ally of the United States [photo 6].



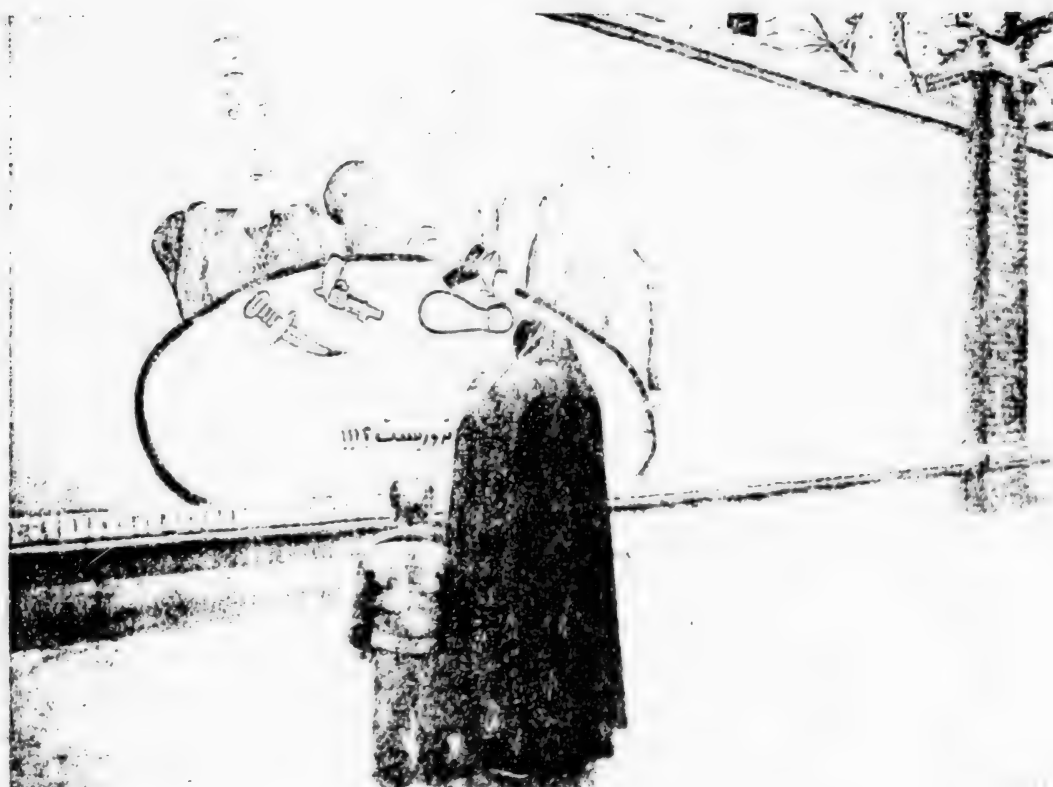


Photo A

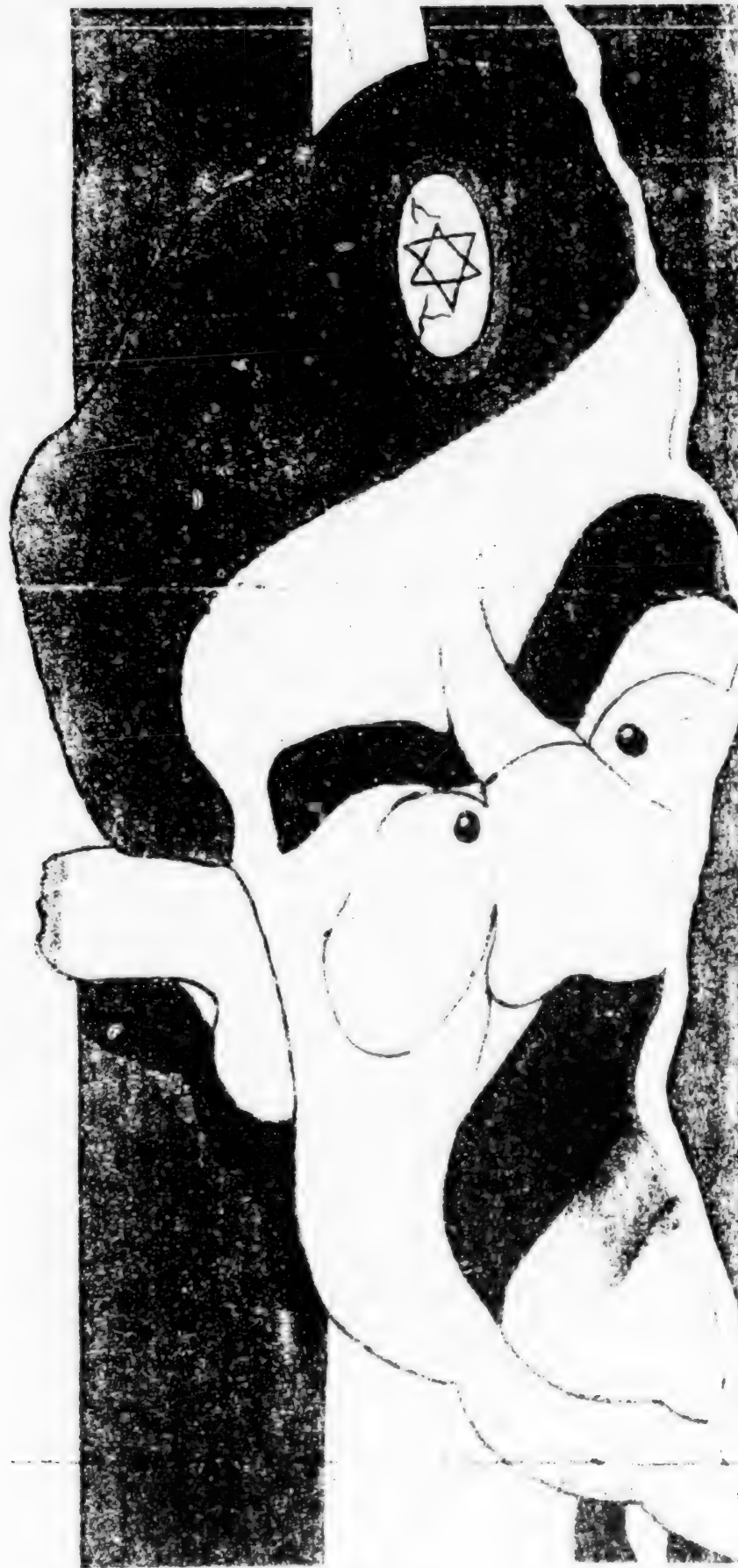
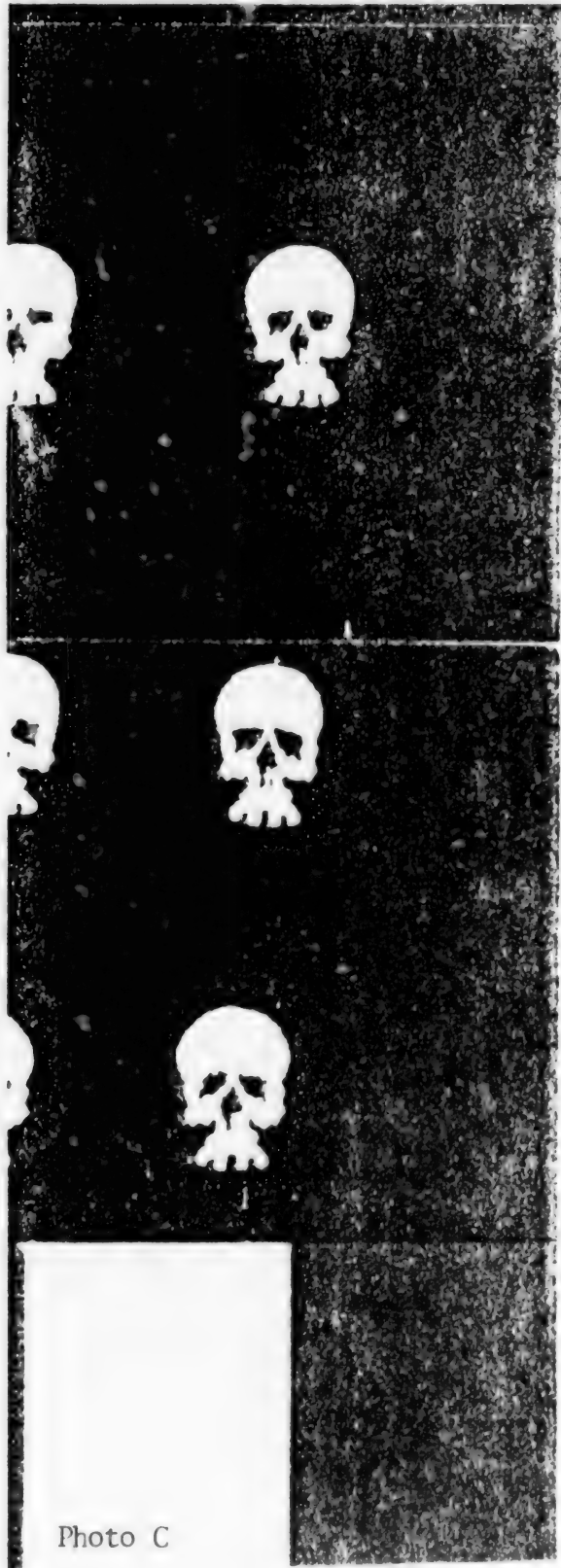


Photo B



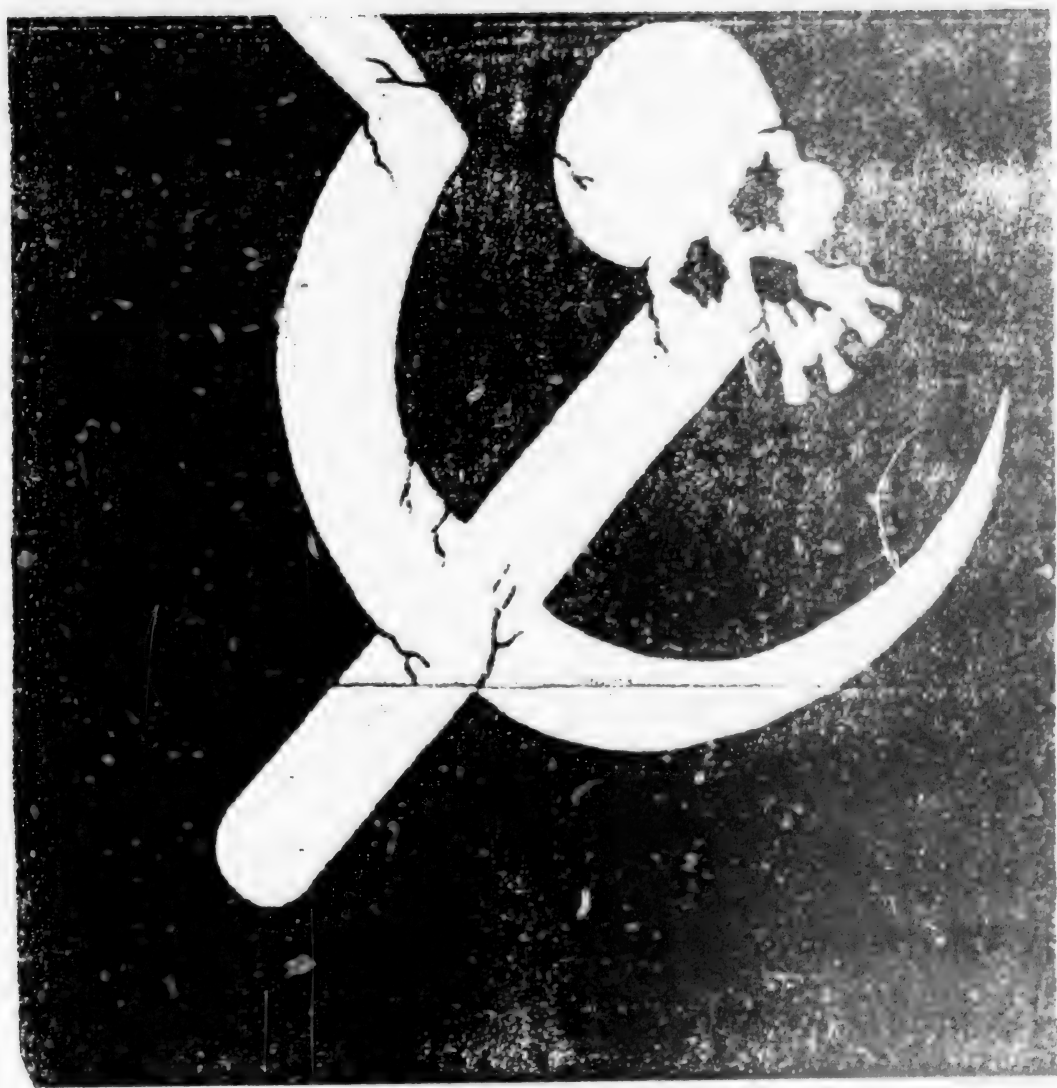


Photo D



PHOTO 1.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

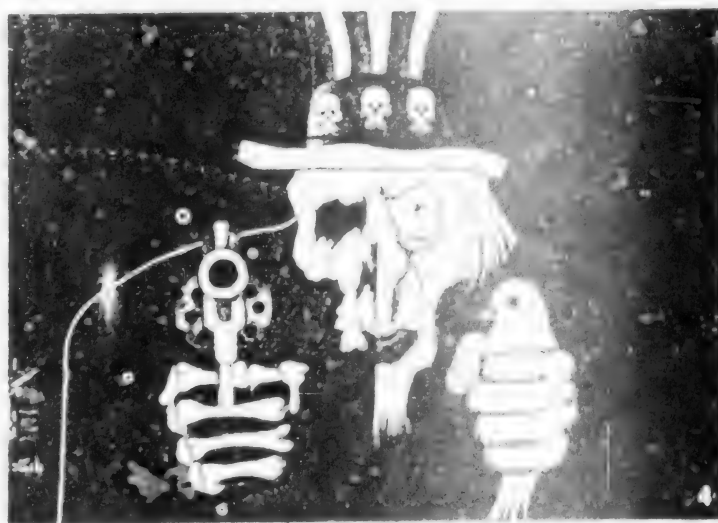


Photo 4





Photo 5

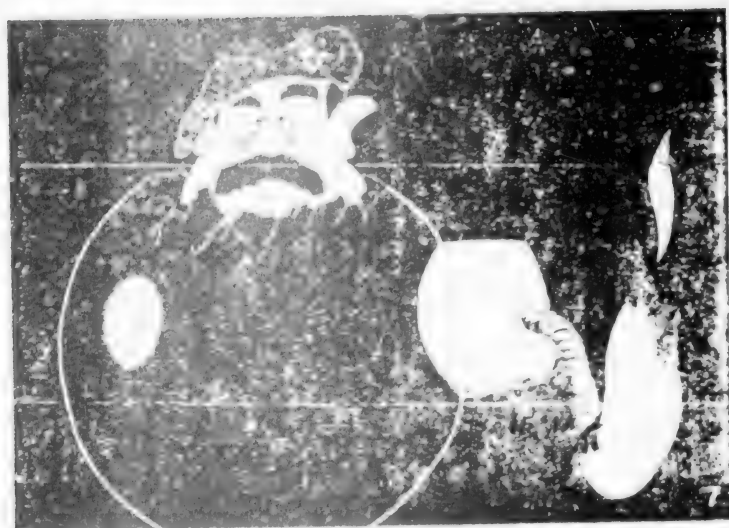


Photo 7

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Photo 6

IRAN

BRIEFS

LEBANON RECEIVES IRANIAN AMBASSADOR--Beirut, March 31, IRNA--The new Iranian ambassador to Lebanon, Ahmad Dastmalchiyan, submitted his credentials to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, Tuesday. Dastmalchiyan met with secretary general of Lebanese Foreign Ministry at Ba'bda palace, East Beirut, Tuesday morning before handing over his credentials. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 31 Mar 87 LE] /6091

CSO: 4600/184

PAPER CRITICIZES GANDHI'S ATTITUDE

BK220855 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 11 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by Bashir Ahmad: "Gandhi's Stance Toward Pakistan"]

[Text] With Rajiv Gandhi's ascension to the gaddi [power], following the assassination of his mother on 31 October, 1984, a new chapter opened in Indo-Pak history. Incurring a certain amount of personal risk as gesture of goodwill, President General Ziaul Haq travelled to Delhi for participation in the funeral ceremony of Mrs Indira Gandhi. The assassination presented a challenge to the U.S. which wanted to wean Rajiv Gandhi away from Moscow and nudge him closer to Washington. Secretary of State George Shultz accompanied by Senator Patrick Moynihan and former Ambassadors Sherman Copper, Rober Goheen and J.K. Galbraith, came to attend the funeral. The high-powered delegation signified the importance the U.S. attached to improvement of relations with India. As General Ziaul Haq was offering his condolences and pouring sympathies in this grievous moment for India, the young prime minister was protesting to the American secretary of state against the induction of sophiaticated weapons in the region.

He urged the visitors to stop arms-supply to neighboring Pakistan; "we are upset about it. We want to devote our funds to economic development but the large weapons shipments to Pakistan force us to divert our funds. That relationship is disturbing our region."

On the eve of the funeral, Doordarshan [Indian TV] indulged in anti-Pakistan propaganda, exhibiting documentaries negating the very concept of Pakistan. Pakistan's attitude was in sharp contrast to that of India; the former refrained from any such move as it was desirous of promoting goodwill with the neighbor. Since its very inception Pakistan has pursued the path of peace and when General Ziaul Haq took over, a peaceful offensive to mend fences with that country was launched. It is his conviction as a good Muslim that affirmation of goodwill for anybody is bound to beget goodwill in the long run. In an address to the Majlis-i-Shoora [advisory council] (March 23, 1985) he recalled efforts made by his government to improve relations with India. He expressed the hope for a new chapter in Indo-Pakistan relations. Prime Minister Junejo while addressing the nation on 31 March, 1985 reaffirmed that Pakistan will

continue to endeavor to achieve peace and cooperation with India. The president has consistently asserted that Pakistan desires friendly relations with India, as good neighborly ties between the two are indispensable for peace and stability in South Asia. Pakistan continues to pursue the path of peace sincerely to reach a friendly rapprochement with its neighbor. On return from Burma and South Korea, President Ziaul Haq, while explaining the foreign policy of Pakistan stated that within Islam's conceptual framework of peace and human brotherhood, the development of good neighborly relations with India had been an important plank of Pakistan's foreign policy. He claimed Pakistan had been encouraged by the progress in Indo-Pakistan relations since assumption of power by Rajiv Gandhi. Romesh Bhandari, the visiting Foreign Secretary of India (April 1985), stated that everybody in Pakistan, right from the president to the common man, had a genuine desire to further friendly relations between the two countries. In contrast, India's attitude does not inspire much confidence as its prime minister rarely misses an opportunity to malign Pakistan for its 'war-like designs' rather than adopt a conciliatory attitude. Rajiv Gandhi resorts to rancorous rhetoric whipping up war hysteria. During the Doon School celebrations (1985) he declared: 'Pakistan is just a line drawn arbitrarily by the British. It is neither racial nor geographical, an artificial creation.' He perceived no difference in the thought and outlook of Indian and Pakistani nationals. He showed no awareness of the positive impulses which had led to the establishment of Pakistan. A contingent of old students of the School had gone to Dehra Dun from Pakistan to participate in the celebrations.

The sentiment for normalization and rapprochement is not reciprocated by Indian leaders. Knowing him to be young and hence full of promise the general was very keen to draw close to Rajiv Gandhi as demonstrated by the fact that he has met him eight times so far. He wants to continue the dialogue to achieve a break-through for a "no-war pact". He is able to discover signs of friendliness on the part of the Indian Prime Minister, not apparent to ordinary mortals. He is on record as having stated that Mr Gandhi's response was positive, right and sincere. The Indian Prime Minister, on the other hand, has successfully wriggled out of his commitment to pay a return visit to Pakistan; the visit was scheduled in the first half of 1986. He even sacked his loosetongued Foreign Secretary, Mr Venkateswaran, for a statement he made in Islamabad that Indian Prime Minister will visit Pakistan. What further sour relations between the two are the chronic Hindu-Muslim riots in India. Islam's concept of universal brotherhood, coupled with the fact of separated families as a result of partition, imports a highly emotional factor into the situation. The massacre of Indian Muslims and desecration of their places of worship does not tend to improve the situation. For example, the conversion into a temple of the Babari Mosque at Ayodhya near Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh evoked resentment in the Pakistan National Assembly and the national press.

Rajiv Gandhi's bias against Pakistan exhibited itself during his Western tour (June, 1985) which included the USSR, Egypt, France, Algeria and the U.S. He unleashed a virulent propaganda stating that 'Pakistan's response for better relations with India was mixed though India had acted very positively. Pakistan posed a danger of proliferation to India which does not intend to

make a bomb'. It may be recalled that during his foreign tour he raised the question of Pakistan's nuclear capability with leaders of every country he visited, also broaching it with French President Francois Mitterrand and insinuated that there could be problems between India and France if the French helped Pakistan develop nuclear weapons. His Minister of State for External Affairs who had proceeded to America stated on arrival in New York that 'supply of sophisticated offensive arms will create an imbalance in the situation in the sub-continent. India cannot sit back and see a qualitative increase in the armory of Pakistan. India which refuses to sign the Non-proliferation Treaty blames Pakistan instead for a nuclear race. During his discussions with the American President, Rajiv Gandhi tried to drive a wedge between Pakistan and the U.S. but failed miserably to make a dent in the detente existing between them. President Ronald Reagan defended the arms relationship which was directed at helping Pakistan deal with its security problems arising from the Soviet incursion into Afghanistan, as also to eliminate Pakistan's need to acquire nuclear weapons.

The hijacking of an American Jumbo Jet at Karachi, which also carried Indian passengers, provided Rajiv Gandhi a long stick to beat Pakistan with. He consistently harped on Pakistan's lop-sided security. A security lapse had undoubtedly occurred in the sorry episode, resulting in the regrettable loss of precious lives. The aircraft's captain also jumped out of the cockpit; he ran for dear life and abandoned the inmates contrary to the adage that the captain is always the last one to leave a sinking ship. The incident coincided with the Non-aligned Session in Harare, Zimbabwe, where Robert Mugabe took over as the new chairman. President Ziaul Haq, who represented Pakistan at the conference, kept the Indian Prime Minister posted with hour-by-hour details about the aircraft and the steps taken by the Pakistan Government for the safety of passengers. Rajiv Gandhi, however, could not resist the temptation to discredit his advisory in an international forum. Back home (October, 1986) he found himself confronted with an identical security lapse when pistol shots were fired at him by a miscreant who had escaped detection even though the Rajghat had been combed several times before the ceremony at which both President Zail Singh and Rajiv Gandhi were to be present.

The Indian press indulged in recrimination, roping in Pakistan unnecessarily though Rajiv Gandhi could no more slander Pakistan about the security lapse. He has taken care to eschew the subject since.

Instead of amity the Indian prime minister speaks of discords and tensions. In the very recent past he stated to pressmen that hatred had survived between the two people and that a 'feeling of hurt' persisted long after partition. This hereditary, ingrained bias characterises his approach in his dealings with Pakistan.

Rajiv Gandhi attended the UN General Assembly Session in December, 1985; during his sojourn in the U.S. he again waged an incessant campaign against Pakistan's nuclear program and the supply of American weapons. Though he failed to alienate the U.S. from Pakistan he was able to procure dual purpose



technology which was to enable India, in the course, to manufacture sophisticated aircraft, electronic defense system and the latest generation of computers. India was actually gifted five such computers.

Like his mother, Rajiv Gandhi is also hostile to Pakistan. He has throughout maintained an aggressive posture, all-pervasive, which permeates India's entire political and administrative setup. Concern over Pakistan's nuclear program, for example, was also voiced by his new Chief of Staff, General K. Sunderji (February 3, 1986) who said that there are "enough indications to suggest that Pakistan has achieved or is close to achieving nuclear weapon capacity". The Indian Armed Forces, he said, are therefore gearing up to counter any likely use of nuclear weapons by an adversary.

India has to reckon with the Sikh insurrection, with its calls for independence. Without adducing any concrete evidence the Indian leadership and press blame Pakistan for the trouble in Punjab, the stronghold of secessionist sentiment. Pakistan has always refuted the allegation, challenging India to furnish proof. Pakistan is too small a country to poke its nose in the affairs of a big neighbor but for its inability to contain Sikh militancy, India finds it convenient to foist the blame on Pakistan. Neutral observers including Western correspondents who extensively toured East Punjab could discover no sign of Pakistan's complicity. Gross misstatements are daily splashed in the Indian Press, with unwarranted calumny and vituperation against a pacific country. In his inaugural address to the budget session of the Indian Parliament President Zail Singh also spoke in a similar strain.

The Sikhs have been utterly disillusioned with the Hindus who had promised them autonomy in order to induce them to join the Indian union in 1947 but the subsequent treatment meted out to them frustrated the Sikh community who now agitate for Sikh homelands. Terrorist killings continued even when the borders had been sealed by the Indian army. The bogie of infiltration from across the border demolished.

On assuming power, Rajiv Gandhi was hailed as a pragmatic leader, one dedicated to change and open to conviction. When the congress party received an unprecedented majority in Parliament he pledged to seek detente with Pakistan, its perennial enemy, end the civil strife in Punjab and Assam and mend fences with China. After a lapse of more than two years the trouble in Punjab stays unabated while Assam is far from pacified. The conflict with China has grown in intensity and dimensions. Rajiv Gandhi's initial popularity has waned except with his sizeable Hindu constituency.

Pakistan has to take stock of the situation as India continues at loggerheads with it despite strenuous efforts at reconciliation. The latter seeks military preponderance in order to achieve hegemony in the region. WASHINGTON POST has summed up the situation thus: "India's view is that South East is a region in its own right, that India is dominant in it and that its dominance, specifically over Pakistan, should be acknowledged by all". Though India



continues to stage provocations and ventilate warlike aims we have tried to follow the path of peace. Since the other party refuses to see reason we have to make a reassessment of the situation and cry a halt to the policy of appeasement, kowtow rather. All our advances for peace and friendship have been rebuffed contemptuously. The limit has been reached. It is time to stand up, face facts and hold back the olive branch our home leaders have extended so long and so far. For Indo-Pakistan ties the only acceptable basis is sovereign equality and Pakistan could never compromise on this principle.

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CSO: 4600/181

## PAKISTAN, DPRK TO COOPERATE IN POWER GENERATION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 12 Mar 87 p 8

## [Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 11: Pakistan and Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea have agreed to cooperate in the field of Hydel power generation and this cooperation would start with the installation of hydel power stations at Neelam and Lut.

This was stated in the protocol on the Third Session of the Joint Economic Committee between the Governments of Pakistan and DPR Korea signed here today. The protocol was signed by the Federal Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs, Mian Muhammad Yasin Khan Wattoo and the DPR Korean Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. Choi Jong Gun on behalf of their respective governments.

Under the protocol, a Korean team will visit Pakistan for investigation and preparation of detailed designs. Based upon these technical investigations, the Korean side will furnish a comprehensive proposal to the Government of Pakistan for the construction of these two power stations.

The Korean side, according to the protocol, will deliver, design, machinery and materials for the two power stations through interest free credit. A percentage of the cost of machinery would be made in advance while the remaining payment would be made after three to five years of operation.

The Korean side agreed to extend cooperation to Pakistan in the field of exploration of mineral resources and to furnish the comprehensive report at an early date. The Korean side also agreed to carry out necessary laboratory analysis on the iron ore available in Nokkundi and Chilghazi which has shown a reasonable quantity of gold, silver and platinum.

According to the protocol, both sides agreed to cooperate in the field of heavy industry in the private sector in Pakistan. These include industries like welded pipe mill, galvanized, Corrugated iron sheets, bolt and nut manufacture, wire net making project, ductile pipe plant, cast iron foundry and grain silos. DPR Korea also agreed to study the possibilities for cooperation in setting up of steel based engineering goods industries, agro-

processing industries for export markets, agricultural input industries, energy related industries, industries based on highly sophisticated technology, etc.

Under the protocol both sides agreed that in future it would be preferable for them to conduct trade in convertible currencies between the two countries. It was agreed that in future there will be no barter arrangement. They also explored the possibilities of entering into a General Trading Agreement to conduct trade in convertible currency.

According to the protocol, the two sides agreed that the 4th Session of the Pak - Korea Economic Committee be held in Pyong Yang in the first quarter of 1988.

The Secretary Economic Affairs Division, Mr. M.A.G.M. Akhtar and DPR Korean Ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion. After the signing, Mr. Wattoo said that he was gratified to see that Pakistan and Democratic People's Republic of Korea had agreed to cooperate in a meaningful way in very important sectors such as power generation and mineral explorations.

He said that it was matter of great pleasure to find that three industrial joint ventures had already taken off which he hoped would be followed by large number of other joint ventures in fields which had been identified.

The Minister further said that he was quite confident that the economic relations between the two countries would continue to grow and provide a fillip to the existing relationship.

In his remarks, Mr. Choi Jong Gun said that he was convinced that the protocol signed between the two countries would make great contributions in developing their economic and cooperative relations.

He said that his country was ready to extend cooperation to Pakistan in connection with implementation of the Prime Minister's Five-Point Socio-economic Programme. He laid emphasis on increasing the volume of trade between the two countries.—PR

# PAKISTANI FISHERMEN SENTENCED IN INDIA

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 12 Mar 87 p 8

[Text]

KARACHI, March. 11: An Indian court sentenced 46 out of 150 Pakistani fishermen arrested by the Indian coastal guards during the past few months, to six month imprisonment and a fine of 8,000 dollars (about Rs. 1.32 lakh) each.

An emergency meeting of the relatives of fishermen now under detention in India and the owners of fishing launches and trawlers seized by the Indian authorities, was held at the Karachi Fish Harbour today and grave concern was expressed on the award of sentences to Pakistani fishermen and exorbitant fines imposed on them.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution appealing the President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Pakistan to immediately intervene in the matter.

The meeting observed that it was impossible for a poor fisherman or his dependents to pay such a huge fine particularly when he is deprived of his source of livelihood.

It was noted that in the wake of non-payment of such a huge amount

of money, the interned fishermen might have to remain in the Indian jail for life.

The meeting said that Pakistani fishermen had not committed a serious crime nor were their launches seized on spying or smuggling charge. The decision of the Indian court ordering seizure of launches of poor fishermen would render their owners financially bankrupt.

They appealed to the government to take a sympathetic view of the plight of Pakistani fishermen and their families and take effective steps for removing their anxiety.

The meeting pointed out that if all the 150 arrested Pakistani fishermen were fined then the amount would come to about Rs.1.75 crore whereas the Indian trawlers which were apprehended in December 1986 were let off along with the crew after imposition of nominal fine.

The meeting expressed the hope that the Indian government would reciprocate with similar sentiments.—APP.

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CSO: 4600/185

# WALI KHAN VOICES OPPOSITION TO SUPPLY OF STINGERS TO MUJAHIDEEN

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by Rahimullah Yusufzai]

[Text]

PESHAWAR, March 13: The ANP President Khan Abdul Wali Khan has warned that the supply of another 300 Stinger Missiles to the Afghan Mujahideen and their training at the hands of American instructors in Pakistani border territory will escalate the war in Afghanistan and heighten threats to Pakistan's security.

Commenting on the BBC report that the United States had decided to supply the Afghan Mujahideen 300 Stinger Missiles and sent its instructors to train the guerillas in bases inside Pakistan on the Pak-Afghan border, he said in a Press statement that the Government's acquiescence to such dangerous developments would make the people believe that either it was helpless in the whole affair or it was ready to put the country's integrity at stake for the sake of American global interests. He queried whether Kabul and Moscow would not be within their right in

such circumstances to try and destroy these training bases in Pakistani territory through hot pursuit.

Recalling Gen. Ziaul Haq's interview the 'Washington Post' some time back in which he had disclosed that the U.S Government had been asked not to supply sophisticated weaponry to the Afghan Mujahideen as it could fuel the war and antagonise Pakistan's security, Wali Khan said that precisely the same scenario was now obtaining but the Chief of Army Staff has yet to come up with preventive measures to meet such an eventuality. He wanted to know whether clear-cut American pronouncements that its instructors were training the Mujahideen in bases located in Pakistan did not falsify Islamabad's oft-repeated denials that there were no training camps on its soil.

The ANP chief emphasised that the timing of the Reagan adminis-

tration's announcement to further equip the Mujahideen when the Geneva peace talks were in progress clearly showed that the United States was opposed to a peaceful political settlement of the Afghan dispute. He said it also proved that Washington will never allow Islamabad to chalk out its own foreign policy, especially on Afghanistan.

Wali Khan urged the Government to agree to his proposal and ask the Afghan Mujahideen to shift their training camps and arms depots to the '95 per cent area' in Afghanistan which they claim to have liberated leaving the genuine refugees in Pakistan. He said that it was unjustified to push Pakistan into a hostile situation for the sake of only five per cent Afghan territory. "The frogs are trampled when the buffaloes fight" exclaimed Wali Khan quoting a Pashto proverb.

LI XIANNIAN, ZHAO ZIYANG HAIL PAKISTAN DAY

BK230855 Beijing in Urdu to Pakistan 1600 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Chinese President Li Xiannian has sent a message of felicitations to Pakistan President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq on the occasion of Pakistan day. The message says: I, on behalf of the people of China and on my own behalf, extend the warmest greetings and express friendly wishes to Your Excellency and through you to the people of Pakistan on the national day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. I have noted with pleasure that in recent years the illustrious and valiant people of Pakistan have achieved satisfactory successes in their untiring efforts for defense of the national sovereignty and development of the national economy. The Pakistan Government, remaining committed to the foreign policy of independence and sovereignty, peace and nonalignment, has made positive efforts for the promotion and improvement of its relations with neighbors and has played a commendable role for peace in South Asia and Asia as a whole. I sincerely wish for Pakistan new successes on its path of development.

President Li Xiannian said in his message that China and Pakistan have always remained fully committed to the five principles of peaceful coexistence and their mutual friendship based on a solid foundation is full of dynamism. Despite an ever changing international situation, China and Pakistan have always supported and helped each other and thus ensured the continuous, extensive, and lasting promotion of mutual friendly relations and cooperation. History has proved that the people of Pakistan and China are good and trustworthy friends. I am sure that through the united efforts of both sides, Sino-Pakistan friendship will continue to be fully fruitful.

In the conclusion of his message, President Li Xiannian wished prosperity for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and health and happiness for the Pakistan president.

Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang has sent a message of felicitations to Pakistan Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo on the occasion of the Pakistan day. The message says: I, on behalf of the government and the people of China and on my own behalf, extend very sincere greetings to Your Excellency and your

government and people on the auspicious occasion of the national day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The people of Pakistan have achieved notable successes in economic development and national construction. In international relations, the Pakistan Government, adhering to principles and upholding justice, gives importance to the expansion of friendly relations with neighbors and steadfastly supports the just struggle of the Third World. For this it has been widely commended by the international community.

Zhao Ziyang said in his message that due to the united efforts of the government and people of our two countries, our friendly relations have steadily developed in political, economic, cultural, scientific, technological, and other fields. As both our countries have identical views on many important international issues, they have always supported each other and taken steps in a spirit of deep mutual friendship. Cordial neighborly relations and cooperation between China and Pakistan can serve as an example of friendly coexistence among states. We are also fully ready to work jointly with your country to lift the existing excellent relations to a new height and play a useful role in the maintenance of peace in Asia and the world.

At the end of the message, Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang expressed his sincere wishes for the welfare of the Pakistan people and for the success of Prime Minister Junejo's work and for his health.

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CSO: 4600/181



## JUNEJO ASKS FOR SPEEDY REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by Ashraf Hashmi]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 12: Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo today announced in the National Assembly that he has asked the committee constituted two years ago to review the amendments made in the Constitution to speed up its work and submit its report as early as possible.

Addressing the House after it had adopted the Constitution Tenth Amendment Bill with a majority of 174, Mr. Junejo noted that there seemed to be a general feeling in the country that the 1973 Constitution should be restored in its original form and the amendments unilaterally made by the President should not have been made.

The Prime Minister invited all those interested in the issue to come out with their proposals keeping in view the changes which had taken place during the last 13 years, i.e. from 1973 to 1986 so that suitable amendments could be made in the Constitution.

The Committee, the Prime Minister said, had already taken a long time and it should give utmost priority to the task assigned to it. It should give its recommendations so that the Constitution could be amended suitably.

Earlier, the Opposition groups in the National Assembly staged a total boycott of the third reading of the Tenth Amendment Bill, accusing the Treasury Benches of attempts to guillotine the debate. The Opposition's sudden boycott came as a surprise

to the galleries especially as it had participated fully in the clause by clause reading of the Bill till midnight on Wednesday.

The Jamaat-e-Islami leader Liaquat Baluch who initiated the move to boycott the debate, later told this correspondent that it was predetermined as the Government had refused to accommodate their viewpoint.

The Opposition group led by Syed Fakhar Imam maintained that it was the result of the behaviour of the official party which had tried to guillotine the Bill and prevented their deputy leader, Haji Saifullah, from speaking during the third reading. Haji Saifullah was interrupted by the Speaker himself on the objection raised by the Justice Minister that he was not relevant and was indulging in filibustering.

It was Liaquat Baluch of the J.I. who first accused the Treasury Benches of being unreasonable and took his members out of the House. They were followed by Syed Fakhar Imam who also announced his group's boycott of the proceedings.

The Opposition's walkout created a stir in the House. Syed Nusrat Ali Shah announced that though he was in favour of the Bill yet he regretted the Government's rigid posture. He also walked out in protest. The

official party on its part rejected the move of some of its own followers that the House be adjourned for an hour or two and the Opposition persuaded to come back.

Meanwhile the two senior Ministers, Iqbal Ahmad Khan and Yasin Wattoo, who were sent by the Prime Minister to talk to the Opposition and persuade them to come back, reported failure.

The Prime Minister in his speech regretted the walkout staged by the Opposition. He said it was his keen desire that the Opposition should have been there to express its point of view. He said the Speaker had given ample time and freedom to all the Opposition members who opposed the Bill.

He said he wanted to reply to some of the accusations of the Opposition and the objectionable speeches made by them but since they were not present in the House it would not be appropriate for him to talk in their absence. He said he respected the viewpoint of the Opposition and was ready to listen to it but it was the right of the majority party to frame laws which it thought were in the interest of the nation.

He said this was the second amendment made by his party in the Constitution. The first amendment, called the Eighth Amendment, was made in full agreement with the Opposition and it was his desire to take the entire House along with him.

## ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES ISSUE OF MARTIAL LAW CONVICTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Mar 87 p 1, 8

## [Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 12: The National Assembly was reassured today that the government was giving highest consideration to the hardship cases of political prisoners who were convicted under the martial law orders.

The assurance was held out by Wasim Sajjad, Minister for Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, while responding to an adjournment motion sought to be moved in the House yesterday by Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar.

The Minister said the government fully realised the seriousness of the issue. He said the committee constituted by the Prime Minister, was engaged in examining the hardship cases and evolving framework to provide relief to the political prisoners who were convicted during the Martial Law regime.

He hoped the committee will make its recommendation at the earliest.

Wasim Sajjad said there were hundreds of cases which were required to be examined in detail. He termed the issue as complex one which, he said, required necessary legislation.

He opposed the motion, saying that the remedy in hardship cases was already available in the law.

He assured there will be no delay on the part of the government to provide further relief to the political prisoners.

He said the case of each detained person is different to the other which cannot be decided in a simple way.

Moving his motion, Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar pleaded for relief in hardship cases. He said political prisoners who rendered sacrifices for the lifting of Martial Law

and establishment of democratic order in the country should not be denied the right of appeal in the civil courts.

He said the prisoners and their relatives were suffering in miserable condition and required immediate relief.

Malik Nur Khan, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed and Liaquat Baluch, Dr. Shafiq Chaudhry and M.P. Bhandara also supported the motion and called for early release of the political prisoners. They pressed for admission of the motion.

The Deputy Speaker, Sardar Wazir Ahmed Jugezai ruled the motion out of order. He observed that the remedy in the hardship cases cannot be provided in allowing two hours discussion on it.

Some members including Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar, Malik Noor Khan and Syeda Abida Hussain staged a token walkout as a protest against the opposition of the motion by the government.

Sheikh Rashid sought to move an adjournment motion relating to the contention of the government to make it compulsory for the English medium students to take examination in urdu language from the next year. This, he viewed, has caused great resentment among the parents of these students. He said the government should not be in hurry to implement its programme to introduce urdu in educational system.

Naseem Aheer, Minister for Education said the government has not yet taken final decision on the matter. The matter he added, will be placed before the Cabinet soon.

He said the government intended to give option to the English medium students to take examination in urdu or english.

Following the minister's state-

ment, the motion was not pressed.

Mian Mohammad Zaman tabled an adjournment motion in which he referred to a news item according to which the Punjab government had imposed restrictions on the issuance of arm licences.

Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak, Minister for Interior, said he had asked for a report on the matter from the Punjab government. As soon as, he received the report, the facts of the case will be placed before the House.

On the request of the mover, the motion was pending.

Liaquat Baluch, through an adjournment motion, raised the question of preserving the historical monuments, located in the city of Lahore.

The Minister Incharge for Cultural and Tourism said the government was already taking due care of the historical monuments.

Four identical privilege motions sought to be moved by Shah Turabul Haq, Allama Abdul Mustafa Al Azhari, Mohammad Aslam Kachela and Malik Abdul Rauf were not pressed by the movers after the statements of Minister for Communication and Parliamentary Secretary for Communication, Sheikhzada Moheyuddin that the government raised the rates of international telephone calls in accordance with the decision.

## GOVERNMENT DENIES STOPPING ADS TO THE MUSLIM

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Mar 87 p 1, 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 12: Qazi Abdul Majid Abid, Minister for Information and Broadcasting today denied that the Federal Government had put any restriction on the issuance of Government advertisements to a local English daily.

Responding to three identical privilege motions sought to be moved in the House by Maulana Kausar Niazi, Mr Javed Jabbar and Mr Tariq Chaudhry, he said it had been the constant policy of the present Government to extend full freedom to the Press as enshrined in the Constitution. He however, said that the Government could not allow such freedom which amounted to damage the national interest and harm the integrity of the country.

The Minister also dispelled the impression that the Government pressurised the proprietor of daily The Muslim for the resignation of the Editor of the paper.

The movers of the motions alleged that the Government restored to stop advertisements to the English daily, which they described as an indiscriminate attitude adopted by the Government.

They said the Government's action led to direct attack on the freedom of the Press, contrary to the assurances given by the Information Minister on the floor of the House.

They said the Government allegedly deprived the newspaper of its due share of advertisements. They said the Government's action caused breach of privilege of the House, which, they viewed, was the

custodian of the fundamental rights of the people.

They charged the Government of using the advertisements as a lever to control the newspapers.

They said the paper was subjected to punishment for an interview which was also published in two other newspapers. They said the action of banning the advertisements lowered the status of the Government and the Parliament, in the eyes of the public.

The Minister opposed the motions, describing the subject matter of the motions as baseless. He clarified that the Government did not issue any instructions for stopping advertisements to the paper.

He, however, said the newspapers could not claim advertisements as a matter of privilege. He said the Government fully believes in the freedom of the Press.

He deplored that an unwarranted campaign has been launched against the Government on the question of advertisement for the last few days.

He said such tendency would not help create healthy atmosphere between the newspaper and the Government.

Mr Hasan Sheikh also differed to the contentions of the movers of the motions and said that the Senate could not be considered as the custodian of the fundamental rights. He said grievances about the fundamental rights could only be resolved through courts of law.

The Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan ruled the motions out of order on technical ground.

He said the matter was not such in which the Senate could intervene. He said the subject matter did not amount to infringement of the independent status of the Senate, nor did it cause any impediment in the functioning of the House in anyway. The subject matter of the

motions did not harm the credibility of this House, he added and said that the Senate could not intervene in the matter.

He observed that constitutionality and legality of the Government's actions could not be agitated at the forum of the Senate. It is the prerogative of the judiciary to take action in such cases and redress the grievances regarding the violation of the fundamental rights, he added.

The Chairman also referred to his earlier ruling in this regard.

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CSO: 4600/187

## COMMENTARY VIEWS MOVE FOR NEW POLITICAL ALLIANCE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM In English 13 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by Minhaj Barna]

[Text] There has been talk of holding an all-parties conference and forging wider alliances to discuss major issues facing the country, including the demand for mid-term polls, and to evolve a joint course of action to achieve the objectives. The move has been initiated, as is known, both within and outside the MRD. Within the MRD the proposal was made by the JUI leader, Maulana Fazlur Rahman, at the alliance's Lahore meeting but the discussion was deferred owing to the absence of some heads of parties. Outside the MRD it was JUP Chief Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani who, on his return from one of his frequent "tablighi" missions, started rounds of talks with heads of various political parties with a view to evolving a consensus on holding an all-parties moot.

**COMPELLING FACTORS**

The question is after all what are the compelling factors behind these two moves from different quarters. And, secondly, whether the term "all-parties" includes the Jamaat-i-Islami which many have given the title of "B" team of the erstwhile Martial Law regime. The JUP has been consistently opposing the Jamaat and Maulana Noorani has been on record to declare that inclusion of the J.I. in any alliance amounts to including those who have been subverting various political united

fronts in the past. And now the MRD Secretary-General, Malik Qasim, has also endorsed this view by ruling out an invitation to parties now sitting in the "present Assemblies and which supported the Referendum of Gen. Ziaul Haq and participated in the 1985 non-party elections".

This is, however, an important issue which is being debated intensely within and outside the MRD following the raising of a bitter controversy on the dramatic participation of Malik Qasim and PPP's noted leader Rao Rashid in the pro-Jamaat IJT rally in Karachi last month.

**SERIOUS CONCERN**

In fact some of the left-oriented parties within the alliance like the ANP, QMA, and PNP viewed the talk of possible PPP-JI alliance with serious concern. They apprehended the possibility of emergence of what they described as a "rightist" alliance, with PPP becoming as its centre-piece. According to them geo-political considerations, including the developments in Afghanistan, were forcing the pro-US parties to forge a new alliance outside the MRD and frustrate any settlement of the Afghan issue at the Geneva proximity talks. Whether such an assessment of the changing political scene is right or wrong, the fact remains that recent utterances of Ms. Benazir Bhutto in her Channel Four interview and on other occasions, have created a great deal of confusion not only within the MRD but within the PPP itself. The confusion was further confounded by a recent public statement by Prof. Ghafoor, Naib Amir of the Jamaat, that talks for an "understanding" with the PPP have al-

ready started. Quarters close to the PPP have revealed that a large number of rank and file members of the party, particularly those who suffered at the hands of the Martial Law regime, have expressed their disapproval of any move for an alliance with the J.I. They are also said to be strongly critical of the pro-US overtures of the party leadership.

Even if the PPP-J.I. alliance is ruled out what are the compelling factors for the moves for wider alliances? As regards the JUP proposal it is obvious that Maulana Noorani has refused to join the MRD despite his being politically nearer to the 9-party alliance's stand on fundamental issues. He has deliberately avoided his party's involvement in the MRD movement of August 1983 and August 1986. Although he has been bitter against the Martial Law regime for breaking up his party and winning over some of his activists like Zahoor Bhopali and Mohammad Faizl, he deemed it fit to play safe. His current efforts appear to be aimed at first uniting with parties outside the MRD like the Tehrik and NPP who have been formerly components of the MRD alliance. Why can't they join the MRD along with Maulana Noorani and what are the points on which they differ with the alliance that restrain them from joining hands with it although the alliance includes some of their former PNA colleagues?

**PPP-J.I. ALLIANCE**

Conversely, one may also ask what is it that compels the MRD components to think of an all-parties conference and forge a "wider" alliance? For the JUP it may be the despondency and polit-

tical isolation that may have gripped it following the emergence of the MQM in Sind that has almost eroded its bases of support in Karachi and other Mohajir populated cities. For the MRD it may be its utter frustration that followed its failure to force the hands of the Government to concede its demand for fresh polls on party basis. It is common knowledge that the other components of the MRD have been banking on the strength of the PPP, the party with the mass following. The PPP, however, failed to convert its mass following into a movement capable of dictating its terms to the powers that be. Autumn came and so did winter, followed by spring, but with no change. One no longer hears about the 'doves of democracy' which perhaps have been consigned to oblivion.

### DISCONTENT

It appears that most of the parties are suffering from an inner feeling of incapacitation and inaction and don't know what to do. The separate moves for new or wider alliances, including the one proposed by the Hari leader Jam Shqi—an "Anti-Imperialist United Front" are indicative of the discontent with the existing combinations and the diversity of perceptions.

One can only infer that most of the parties have ostensibly settled down to wait for the target-date of 1990 unless some unforeseen events overtake the current passive political scene as catalysts of a change. This, however, does not mean that people in general are content with the present dispensation. One can hardly be oblivious of the serious contradictions besetting the society and its social fabric and challenges arising out of the geo-political tensions.

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## NEW PANJABI-PAKHTOON GROUP SAID MILITANT

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by Sultan Ahmed]

[Text] The edges of the divisive ethnic groups in embattled Karachi are getting harder, with more new faces leaping in to emerge as tough local leaders. If the militant Mohajir Qaumi Movement led by the ambitious Altaf Hussain is trying to rally the Mohajirs around him and advocating Mohajir causes with singular vehemence, it is now the new Punjabi - Pakhtoon Ittehad which is trying to advocate the causes of the two groups in the city with militant vigour.

The PPI has Malik Sarwar Khan of Punjab origin as president and Mir Hazar Khan MNA in the days of Ayub Khan, as chairman representing the Pakhtoons. How militant they can be not only in their language but otherwise, too, was demonstrated when 2000 of their supporters besieged the Karachi Press Club and its property when the two leaders announced the launching of the new Ittehad.

Judging by the manner they addressed the press conference it was difficult to decide whether they were angry with Altaf Hussain's claim of Mohajirs in Sind being a new nationality or with the Karachi Press, which they called as the Press Mafia, for supporting him or giving extensive coverage. They were unhappy, too, with the intellectuals and businessmen for supporting the Mohajirs.

The PPI does not want merely to take on MQM but also propose to put up its own candidates belonging to its 'bratheris' to contest national, provincial and municipal elections. They said in the past they supported and financed Mohajir candidates but would not do that anymore, as,

such elected persons supported the Mohajirs only now. In fact, they demand that the Mohajir voters should be deleted from the electoral rolls as since they claim to have a separate nationality.

The MQM's extremism was bound to produce similar extremism on other groups in the city, particularly the Pakhtoons; but now the Pakhtoons instead of going it alone have combined with the Punjabis in Karachi.

But it has to be ascertained how much of all this, including the MQM, is the outcome of the ethnic groups wanting to come together to protect or press their causes, and how much is the result of new men wanting to be powerful.

Ethnic groupings in Sind have a long and varied history. Initially it was the Mohajirs who were pressing their claims, specially for jobs, after industrial expansion in the city was stopped. The emerging Sindhi nationalism became more assertive, following the loss of Karachi, Hyderabad and Sind to Mohajir majorities, the Mohajirs tried to strengthen their position by forming an alliance of Mohajirs, Punjabis and Pathans. But that alliance under Nawaz Mozaffar made hardly any headway, but irritated the Sindhis a great deal.

The Mohajirs then realised the folly of uniting against the people who had given a new homeland to them, and with other outsiders in the province whose numbers had increased rapidly because of the steady inflow of people from the north. Then they detached themselves from groupings with outsiders and began coming closer to the Sindhis and called themselves as new Sindhis, while Chief Minister Ghous Ali Shah said there were no old and new Sindhis but only Sindhis.

But Altaf Hussain's old pocket MQM which suddenly received a mighty shot in the arm and found

itself very rich and resourceful said they were not new Sindhis but a nationality in themselves. If others like the Pakhtoons and Baluchis would call themselves as a nationality, so would the Mohajirs, he asserted.

Two of the demands which the PPI leaders came up with were that the Mohajirs should not denounce the police or attack the buses and other forms of public transportation. They resented in particular the pressure mounted by the Mohajirs which resulted in the transfer of three SHOs.

The issue immediately arose whether the rich transporters of the city and the police officers were behind the new PPI? The fact is that the people of Karachi as a whole become victims of police excesses and the reckless driving of mini-buses, buses and trucks.

Increasing corruption among the police officers and cops and their involvement in crimes directly, and the cover they had provided to criminals had been a source of concern for all the citizens.

Similarly if the maniacally driven mini-buses or trucks kill pedestrians and even those standing at bus stops, and women and children, too, get crushed under the wheels of such vehicles, there is bound to be violent protest. And since the police have not been able to do much in this regard the outraged people take law into their own hands and try to set fire to the offending vehicle and lynch the driver if he does not flee.

So neither demand of the PPI is likely to be met. And the Press will keep on campaigning against both, and against the involvement of the police in the drug trade or providing protection to the drug sellers.

Meanwhile, the local Awami National Party leaders have come



out strongly denouncing the PPI. Mohammad Amin Khattak, Qamar-Juddin, Jasmani and Nazir Jan Khaksar have stated that the formation of the PPI was the outcome of a conspiracy of the rulers to damage the political parties. They said the ANP would have nothing to do with groups which were formed against the interests of Sind and those living in the provinces.

The same origin was attributed to the MQM earlier and such belief has been strengthened by the manner the MQM worked hard to frustrate the recent Payya Jam call of the former Mayor Abdus Sattar Afghani and the members of the KMC Council to the glee of the government.

If all this is disturbing the established political parties it is not surprising. The city is clearly moving towards a collision course, more like that in Beirut.

But the issue here is whether the drug kings, too, are behind the Ittehad, in addition to the transporters and the police. The fact is the transport-owners themselves exploit the Pathans who buy their mini-buses by making them pay more than double the price of the vehicle within a short time. If they fail to pay the large instalments regularly the vehicle is forfeited with all the payments made. So the drivers of the mini-buses are made to drive them at break-neck speed to make the most money. In the process too many pedestrians die each day, inviting violent response from the enraged public.

The city whose administration is failing, while the government's role in it is deeply suspect, has become a fertile ground for all kinds of organisations to spring up, all kinds of leaders to emerge and get plenty of publicity and add to the uncertainty, chaos and fear in which its eight millions live.

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## RIGHTS FOR NORTHERN AREAS DEMANDED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Mar 87 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, March 13: The speakers addressing to Karakoram National Movement convention strongly criticised the Government and demanded the dismissal of Qasim Ali Shah, Minister for Northern Areas. They said that the people of Gilgit, Baltistan want Pakistani citizenship, and if their demands were not met, they would be forced to think otherwise.

A convention of the Karakoram National Movement was held here at a local hotel. Qasim Sahyar, Chairman of the Movement, said it was very unfortunate that the people of Northern Areas, who asked for its annexation to Pakistan, are not considered Pakistanis. He warned that the people would not allow usurpation of their right any more. He said that if the demands of the people were

not met, they would not allow trade transit with China through the Karakoram. He said the main purpose of the holding of this convention in Punjab was to inform the people of the majority province about the injustice being done to the people of the area. He said while in Pakistan they were deprived of all kind of rights, India for these areas has reserved five seats in the Parliament and 65 seats in the medical colleges.

Malka Balistani demanded that a new province consisting of Chitral, Gilgit, Baltistan and other area should be established. She said it was a great irony that while Pakistan exercise its sovereignty over these areas the people of these areas are not accepted as Pakistani citizen. She said that the students of these areas were getting a very small amount as scholarship, as compared to the

Afghan students who were getting Rs. 7,000 per year. She demanded that the amount of scholarships for local students should be increased so that they could meet their educational expenses. She also demanded the Government that unlawful allotment in these areas should be stopped. She warned that if their grievances were not removed they would start a movement from September this year.

The convention through a resolution demanded that a new province namely the Karakoram should be created. It also said that People of the Northern Areas should celebrate Oct. 9, as Independence day, in remembrance of their historical victory against India in 1948. The convention approved another resolution calling upon the Government that local civilian teachers should be posted in colleges.

## BRIEFS

MOSSAD PRESENCE DENIED--The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has sharply contradicted a news item attributed to FIA sources, appearing in a section of the Press that the "Mossad" Israeli Intelligence Agency, had strong network in Pakistan. Terming the story as incorrect and absolutely baseless, the sources said that the 'Mossad' did not exist in Pakistan and hence the question of its working against the interest of Pakistan and the Muslim world did not arise. The sources also denied the report that the four terrorists who had seized Pan Am aircraft at Karachi had received a secret message to this effect from Abu Nidal's Headquarters and that some members of this network had board the Pan Am aircraft for their destination to Frankfurt. The FIA authorities also refuted the claim that the terrorists had seized the aircraft with the intention to kill the 'Mossad' members, -but they could not identify them. [Text][Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Mar 87 p 3]/12828

COMMODITY EXCHANGE WITH SWEDEN--Under a commodity exchange agreement signed in Islamabad, commodities worth \$88 million are to be exchanged each year between Pakistan and Sweden. Pakistan's exports to Sweden will include raw cotton, cotton products, textiles, engineering goods, surgical instruments, and sports goods. Sweden's exports to Pakistan will include medical and laboratory equipment, electrical telecommunication equipment, and diesel engine spares. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Mar 87 BK] /9738

OIL PRODUCTION FIGURE--Oil production in the country has reached the level of 45,000 barrels a day and it will touch the 50,000 barrels a day level by the end of this year. This was stated by Minister in Charge of Petroleum and Natural Resources Haji Mohammad Hanif Taiyeb while talking to newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon. [Excerpt] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1700 GMT 16 Mar 87 BK] /9738

BAHRAINI COMMANDER MEETS ZIA--Commander of the naval unit of the Bahraini Defense Forces, Colonel (Khalil al-Rahman), called on President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. Earlier Col (Khalil al-Rahman) met with Naval Chief Admiral Iftekhhar Ahmed Sirohi and discussed with him matters of professional importance. He later called on the air chief, Air Chief Marshal Jamal Khan, at the air headquarters and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. Gifts were also exchanged on the occasion. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Mar 87 BK] /9738

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